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Dear Granby Community,

We are writing to inform you of a recent legislative change from the State of Connecticut that impacts the age at which children are eligible to start Kindergarten this fall. We look forward to partnering with the community to support all of our youngest learners as we navigate this change.

Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, children need to turn 5 years old on or before September 1 in order to be automatically eligible for kindergarten. This is a change from the current kindergarten cutoff date of January 1. This means that children born on or before September 1, 2019 will continue to be eligible to begin Kindergarten in the 2024-2025 school year. Children born between September 2, 2019 and December 31, 2019 will not be eligible to begin Kindergarten until the 2025-2026 school year. Additional information can be found [here](#).

While we believe this new state mandate will be positive in leveling the playing field for Connecticut's learners as it will align Connecticut to entry criteria across the nation, we also understand that it may be challenging for families during the transition. We recognize that preschool experiences were planned in accordance with the current eligibility guidelines. Therefore, we have already reached out to families of students attending the Granby Public Schools Preschool Program affected by this change and we plan to work with community based preschools to support them with the impact of this change.

Please know that the legislation does include a provision that children affected by this date change “may still be admitted into kindergarten upon (1) a written request from the parent or guardian, and (2) an assessment completed by the school that determines admitting the child to kindergarten would be developmentally appropriate.” As a district, we are in the process of learning more about this provision and consulting with our colleagues across the state and region to coordinate efforts for families.

If you have a child who is planning to start Kindergarten in the 2024-25 school year or was born before January 1, 2020 and would previously have been eligible for Kindergarten [please complete this FORM](#). By doing so, we can keep you updated as to how the changes will be implemented in Granby. We appreciate your collaboration and we ask that you share this information with any families in town with children under the age of five.

Sincerely,  
Colleen, Jenn, Cheri