201. ADMISSION OF BEGINNERS

1. Guidelines
   SC 1304
   Title 22
   Sec. 11.15
   Pol. 201.1

   Because chronological age is the best single indicator of maturity, it shall be the policy of the Spring-Ford Area School District to require that all children who seek admission as beginners in the district shall have attained the age of six (6) years by August 31 if they are to be admitted in the Fall. (See Policy No. 201.1 for exception.)

   Any child who desires to seek admission to the kindergarten classes of the Spring-Ford Area School District shall have attained the age of five (5) years by August 31 if they are to be admitted in the Fall. (See Policy No. 201.1 for exception.)

   A child who has successfully completed an accredited kindergarten in a school system which has a lower entrance age requirement, may be entered into first grade without regard for chronological age.

   Children who apply for initial entrance to the district's schools by transfer from nonpublic schools or from schools outside the district will be placed initially in the grade level they would have reached elsewhere pending their observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the school principal. After such observations and evaluations have been completed, the principal will determine the final grade placement of each individual child in relation to his/her past achievement, needs and abilities.

   Verification of an applicant's eligibility for admission to school is according to the following criteria and procedures:

   Pol. 201

   1. Initial entrance to kindergarten or first grade shall be in accordance with the birth dates as noted in this school district policy (Policy 201).
2. Residence shall be established at the time of admission (except for nonresident students covered by Policy 202) and the district reserves the right to verify thereafter by determining:

a. Legal home address of parents who live together, or

b. Legal home address of mother or father, surviving parent, or legal guardian, or

c. Legal home address of divorced parent who has custody of the child under a court order or decree.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 503, 1301, 1304, 1326

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.41, 11.12, 11.14, 11.15, 11.16, 11.41

Board Policy – 200, 201, 202, 203