AGAMIM CLASSICAL ACADEMY POLICY

Students, No. 504

EARLY KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION POLICY

I. PURPOSE

State law requires that kindergarten students must attain the age of five years on or prior to September 1 of the enrollment year unless the local school board has adopted a policy for early enrollment in select cases. This policy provides guidance to employees, families, and students regarding early kindergarten admission.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

Agamim Classical Academy is dedicated to the continuous development of each student. Students will be placed in the instructional level best suited to their academic, social, and emotional needs. Early admission to kindergarten may be appropriate for some children, and this policy allows for early enrollment in select cases.

III. OTHER CONDITIONS

In order to be eligible for early kindergarten admission consideration, families must submit a letter of request for early admission to the school along with their kindergarten application before the deadline for on-time application to kindergarten. Families who apply after the deadline for on-time application to kindergarten will be notified if there are open spots in kindergarten. If there are openings, the family must submit a letter of request for early admission within three days of receiving official school notice of the open spot.

IV. EARLY KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION PROCEDURES

A. Children who are five years of age on or before September 1 of the calendar school year may enroll in kindergarten. The school will begin the application process for kindergarten in November of the prior school year.

B. Children who are five years of age on September 2 through October 31 of the calendar school year may enroll in kindergarten if they meet the school's early admission to kindergarten assessment requirements outlined below.

1. The school will review early admission to kindergarten request letters submitted according to the timelines established in part III of this policy ("Other Conditions") and schedule a meeting with families considering early admission into kindergarten to explain the early admission requirements and provide deadlines for assessment data submission.

2. Children who are five years of age on or before September 1 of the calendar school year may enroll in kindergarten. The school will begin the application process for kindergarten in October of the prior school year. (Please refer to Agamim's Enrollment and Lottery Policy 503 for more information.)

> a. Children who are five years of age on September 2 through October 31 of the calendar school year may enroll in kindergarten if they meet the school's early admission to kindergarten assessment requirements outlined below.

3. The school will review early admission to kindergarten request letters submitted according to the timelines established in part III of this policy ("Other Conditions") and schedule a meeting with families considering early admission into kindergarten to explain the early admission requirements and provide deadlines for assessment data submission.

4. Families seeking early admission into kindergarten must complete the following assessment requirements:

> a. Agamim Classical Academy requires the child undergo a comprehensive psychological, physical/developmental, social, emotional, and academic evaluation that addresses the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress Standards and Readiness for Kindergarten (more information is [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)):
>
> - *Approaches to learning*
> - *The arts*
> - *Language, literacy, and communications*
> - *Mathematics (cognitive)*
> - *Physical and movement development*
> - *Scientific thinking (cognitive)*
> - *Social and emotional development*
> - *Social systems (cognitive)*
>
> The evaluation will be performed by a licensed psychologist retained by the school, a school psychologist employed by or affiliated with the

school, and/or relevant school officials responsible for academic testing. Families may also conduct their own comprehensive testing that meets the needs described above using a psychologist outside of and not affiliated with the school. The school may request to see the results of these external assessments. If the school or family uses a nationally-normed, standardized intellectual/academic test appropriate for 3- to 5-year-olds (see list below), the child must achieve a measured score in the Superior range.

<u>Suggested Standardized Intellectual/Academic Tests for 3- to 5-year-olds</u>—

- *Wechsler Intelligence Scales for Children*
- *Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Early cognitive and Academic Development*
- *Stanford-Binet Intellectual Assessment Scale (5th Edition)*
- *Stanford-Binet, Form L-M*
- *Reynolds Intellectual Assessment Scales*
- *Kaufman Assessment Battery for Children (2nd Edition) Differential Ability Scales*
- *MCA-II or other standardized, academic tests.*

b. The child must be recommended for early admission to kindergarten by the psychologist and the school official responsible for testing.

c. The child must show readiness for kindergarten grade level expectations by demonstrating capability in the seven Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress Standards (see IV. B. 4. a.). More information from the Minnesota Department of Education can be found HERE and HERE.

d. The child may undergo a skills and developmental screening based on the entry level kindergarten curriculum of the school's kindergarten program.

5. The school will review the submitted assessment data and after all materials are reviewed, the school will meet with the family to discuss the school's placement determination.

V. PLACEMENT DECISIONS

Decisions for consideration for Early Admission to Kindergarten will be made by the school administration with input from the school psychologist, preschool director/teacher, and Agamim kindergarten faculty. The decision of the administration is final. Parents/Guardians agree to the above terms at the time they submit their letter of request for early admission to kindergarten.