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## Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Policy

Granite Mountain Charter School is committed to providing educational instruction to all students. The Executive Director or designee shall ensure that the Charter School provides a non-discriminatory and equal enrollment process for students of Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten age, in compliance with current state requirements.

The purpose of the Granite Mountain Charter School Governing Board approving this Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Policy is to accomplish the following:

1. Establish the Enrollment in Kindergarten
  2. Establish the Enrollment for Transitional Kindergarten Eligible Students
  3. Establish Enrollment in Transitional Kindergarten
  4. Outline Adherence to All Non-Discrimination Laws
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1. **Enrollment in Kindergarten:** Pursuant to EC 48000(a), a child is eligible for kindergarten if the child will have their fifth birthday by September 1.
  2. **Enrollment in Kindergarten for Transitional Kindergarten Eligible Students:** Pursuant to EC 48000(b), A child having attained the age of five years at any time during the school year with the approval of the parent or guardian, may be admitted to kindergarten subject to the following conditions:
    - The governing board determines that the admittance is in the best interests of the child. Determination will be based on standard criteria set by school administration and is based on standardized guidelines for academic and developmental readiness for kindergarten. Staff determination of grade-level placement will be made based on multiple measures including grade-level appropriate formal assessments and student observations.
    - The parent or guardian is given information regarding the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information about the effect of this early admittance.
  3. **Enrollment in Transitional Kindergarten:** Pursuant to EC 48000(c)(3)(B)(i), Transitional Kindergarten is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate.

For the 2021-22 school year, a child is eligible for Transition Kindergarten if the child will have his or her fifth birthday between September 2<sup>nd</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup>

For the 2022-2023 school year, a child is eligible for Transition Kindergarten if the child will have his or her fifth birthday between September 2<sup>nd</sup> and February 2<sup>nd</sup>

For the 2023-2024 school year, a child is eligible for Transition Kindergarten if the child will have his or her fifth birthday between September 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup>

For the 2024-2025 school year, a child is eligible for Transition Kindergarten if the child will have his or her fifth birthday between September 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup>

For the 2025-2026 school year, and each school year thereafter, a child is eligible for Transitional Kindergarten if the child will have his or her fourth birthday by September 1<sup>st</sup>

- The governing board determines that the admittance is in the best interests of the child. Determination will be based on standard criteria set by school administration and is based on standardized guidelines for academic and developmental readiness for transitional kindergarten. Staff determination of grade-level placement will be made based on multiple measures including grade-level appropriate formal assessments and student observations.
- The parent or guardian is given information regarding the advantages and disadvantages and any other explanatory information about the effect of this early admittance.

#### **4. Adherence to All Non-Discrimination Laws:**

This policy adheres to all non-discrimination laws and is subject to the same enrollment processes as all otherwise qualified students. Enrollment into the charter school will be consistent with all other enrollment guidelines. In the event that a parent or guardian disagrees with the enrollment or grade level placement recommendations of staff, they may appeal the decision in accordance with the school's complaint procedures.