



## Embracing Today – Inspiring Tomorrow

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PATTON | OLIVE | IVY HILL | GREENBRIER | THOMAS  
WINDSOR | WESTGATE | DRYDEN | SOUTH

Dear Families,

Welcome to Arlington Heights! We have received many questions from families about grade placement for students entering the District from countries other than the United States. I hope that this letter helps clarify the District's placement procedures.

Currently, Arlington Heights School District 25 places students in grade levels based on their birthdate, in compliance with Illinois law and School Board policy. We understand that the age/grade levels in the United States may not be the same as those in other countries. Frequently, families new to the United States request that their children be placed in the same grade level that they would be placed in their native country. However, District 25 must abide by state laws and Board policy and will place students by age.

Illinois School Code requires that a child must be five years old on or before September 1 of that school year to be eligible for admission. Children who enter first grade must be six years of age on or before September 1 of that school year.

Additionally, some families have chosen to enroll their children in private/parochial schools for a year or two, at a grade level above where they would be placed in public school. The District considers these cases on a case-by-case basis, but these students must meet the grade advancement criteria as described in the District's "early entrance" procedures. Although this document refers to early entrance to first grade, the same criteria is utilized for acceleration at all grade levels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lori D. Bein'.

Lori D. Bein, Ed.D.  
Superintendent