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<u>Prekindergarten Application Process – Info for Parents</u>

Prairie South is pleased to be able to offer Prekindergarten programs that are funded by Prairie South School Division as well as the Ministry of Education, indicating our strong belief in the value of high-quality early learning programs for 3 and 4-year-olds. The focus of the program is not for children to learn numbers and letters or to learn to read but to expose them to language, literacy, and numeracy through a play-based approach.

It is important for you to understand that being first in line does not guarantee a spot in a program. When the application process ends all applications are reviewed, and class groupings are determined based on:

- 1. Any diagnosed learning needs or referral from another agency such as Health (4-year-olds first, then 3-year-olds)
- 2. Being eligible for Kindergarten the following school year (at least 3 yrs 8 mos on Sept 1)
- **3. Must** be potty trained
- 4. 3-year-olds currently in the program will be placed first, if requested by parent
- 5. Having a language other than English as the first language
- 6. Having a balance of boys and girls
- 7. Application is being made in catchment area, or boundary exemption applied for

You must apply within your catchment area or the area in which you will be seeking a boundary exemption for (this generally occurs due to babysitting reasons). If the program in your catchment area is full and others in the city are not full, you may be offered a spot in another program. If you accept the spot, you must be willing to provide your own transportation.

Each program will serve a maximum of 16 children and will be staffed by a Teacher and an Educational Assistant. Each school will maintain a waiting list and if a child moves during the year, a child from the waitlist will be placed in the program.

After the application process closes and some time is taken to develop class lists, you will be notified by the teacher or administrator from the school you applied to.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation. We are all very excited to be learning together!

Amanda Olson Superintendent of Learning