

# INLAND LEADERS CHARTER SCHOOL

## Section 4: Students

### TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

The ILCS Board recognizes the enactment of the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010 by the state legislature. The law will begin to push the kindergarten cut-off age back to September 1 by the year 2014-2015 and thus eliminate many students from the educational process. This state act provides for the creation of a Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program in schools to create a bridge to traditional kindergarten programs for students who may be left out of the educational process due to their late birthdays. Therefore, ILCS will provide a transitional kindergarten program to provide these students with a solid foundation for their academic skills and a bridge into the traditional kindergarten programs.

#### **Entrance into Transitional Kindergarten**

Students will initially be entered into transitional kindergarten based on the preferences allowed per the school charter through the public lottery. If class space is still available a first-come, first-serve waitlist will be maintained to fill the necessary space. All students must turn five years of age from July 1 to February 1 to qualify for the TK program. The state regulations allow for the ILCS Board to enter students into TK on the first day of school (non-funded) who turn five during the school year. The ILCS Board will allow for TK enrollment after the February 1<sup>st</sup> date only if space is available after all other age qualified students have been entered. Non-funded student admissions will be decided at the discretion of the administration based on variables that may include class sizes, budgetary considerations and current TK enrollment. Students who turn five later than February 1 will be allowed entry into TK based on special conditions that are approved by the ILCS Board including a contract signed and agreed on by the parent outlining expectations and requirements. Students in this situation will be enrolled in order of birthdate resulting in older students being entered first. The school will rely on the parent to place the student into the Transitional Kindergarten program as a voluntary decision. Transitional Kindergarten parents are required to sign off on continuance paperwork to provide a second year of kindergarten for their student(s).

#### **Entrance into Traditional Kindergarten for Transitional Kindergarten Students in the following year**

Transitional Kindergarten students who desire to continue at ILCS will be required to re-enter the school lottery along with the general public to continue at ILCS. There will be no preference level applied for TK students beyond the allowable charter petition preferences. This policy's intent is that students in TK classes will enter the traditional kindergarten class with the same chance as any other student who is trying to enter kindergarten from the public. Students who are recommended by their kindergarten teacher to attend TK rather than kinder within the first month of school will receive automatic enrollment into kindergarten the next year.

### **Inland Leaders Board Policy: Section 4.10**

**Adopted: 6-6-2011**

**Amended: 2-24-2014; 3-23-2017; 1-23-18; 6-18-20; 12-6-21**