

# Early Access Procedure

*Crown Pointe Academy*



November 7th, 2020

Last Edited March 16th, 2022

## **INTRODUCTION**

Crown Pointe Academy is tuition-free K-8 Public Charter School. Our current enrollment is approximately 470 students. Enrollment is based on a first-come, first-serve basis within each grade. Children are placed on a waitlist upon receipt of the Letter of Intent to Enroll. Priority is given to siblings of presently enrolled students.

## **Mission Statement**

Our mission: The mission of Crown Pointe Academy is to promote creativity, curiosity, character, and community in a challenging Core Knowledge environment.

## **Early Access Background**

Crown Pointe Academy recognizes that some highly advanced gifted children may benefit academically, socially, and/or emotionally from early entrance into kindergarten or first grade.

Early Access refers to the early entrance to kindergarten or first grade for highly advanced gifted children under the age of six. Early Access is not an acceleration pattern recommended for the majority of age 4 or age 5 gifted children. The purpose of early access is to identify and serve the few highly advanced gifted children who require comprehensive academic acceleration (which is defined as students scoring at or above the 97th percentile in a series of academic and cognitive assessments). Early Access into kindergarten or first grade was established by House Bill 1021 in 2008 and permits administrative units the option to count in their enrollment and receive State Education Funds for highly gifted students who the administrative unit deems appropriate for early access to kindergarten or first grade. Administrative units and schools must abide by the requirements established in ECEA rule sections 12.02(1)(H) and 12.08.

## **Procedure Overview:**

- Parents must submit a completed Early Access Application Portfolio to the school's

gifted education coordinator by the school's deadline of January 31st. The application deadline is considered the official date of parent referral and begins the early access evaluation process. Late or incomplete application portfolios will not be accepted.

- Upon receipt of the application, the school's gifted education coordinator will communicate with the parents regarding the early access evaluation process.
- The school's gifted education coordinator will conduct a phone interview regarding academic performance and school readiness.
- The gifted education coordinator will screen the application portfolio provided by the parents and consider any additional information collected by school personnel.
- If deemed appropriate, the gifted education coordinator will schedule a formal evaluation to complete a body of evidence on which to base an early access decision by March 1st. **The cost of the testing is the responsibility of the applying family. Payment is due prior to the evaluation. The cost is \$75.00.**
- If the gifted education coordinator determines that there is insufficient information or that the screening information indicates early access would not be appropriate, parents will be notified of the school's decision by April 1st not to grant a formal assessment, and consequently the child will not be granted early access. Parents may dispute the school's decision to deny early access by following the school's grievance policy.