



GENERAL McLANE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Alan J. Karns, Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey A. Fox, CPA, Business Manager Stephen P. Barrett, Ed.D., Curriculum Coordinator

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s):

No Child Left Behind has impacted education in many ways. One significant impact has been the shift to demand more of our children earlier and earlier in school. At GM, we have worked hard to balance this with the understanding that our kindergarten students are really little boys and girls as they enter school.

This subtle shift has had many affects. One negative affect has been the pressure kindergarten students and families feel. This is especially acute for the youngest students who turn five in the summer, then enter kindergarten.

The administration and board are working on a plan to give our youngest students “the gift of time.” A policy is being considered that would change their required age for students entering kindergarten. Under this new plan for a student to start kindergarten, he/she would have to be five (5) years before:

August 1 for the 2007-2008 school year

July 1 for the 2008-2009 school year

June 1 for the 2009-2010 school year and beyond

Anyone who has worked with young children believes that for these summer birthdays this gift of time will have a positive impact on all of their years in school and beyond. The extra year they have to grow and mature will be a gift of a lifetime.

This policy change has been developed and is being reviewed with an anticipated adoption in January 2008. If you have questions or would like to discuss this proposed plan please call me at 814-273-1033. I would enjoy discussing this plan with you.

Sincerely,

Alan J. Karns
Superintendent of Schools