

**Harambee**  
**Community Cultures/Environmental Science Elementary School**  
**Early Entrance to Kindergarten**

Children are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten if they are five years old on or before the first of September. It is recognized that some children may have exceptional skills and are ready to begin their formal education before they reach that age. In order to provide for these children, the Harambee School has established a procedure for early entrance.

Children may be considered for early entrance to Kindergarten at Harambee School if their fifth birthday falls between September 2 and October 31. Their initial application will go through the same lottery process that applies to all registrations. See lottery procedure on the other side. Students who are 5 years old before the September 1 age requirement deadline will have preference over early entrance applicants.

To be considered for early entrance to Kindergarten, a child must first undergo an early entrance evaluation through their resident district. Your resident district will have an application deadline for early entrance, so please contact your resident district's administrative offices to find out their early entrance application process as soon as possible in order to not miss their deadline.

After the child is recommended for early entrance to Kindergarten by their resident district, the Harambee School will conduct a further evaluation of the child. This will include an observation in a K-1 classroom and an evaluation by a licensed psychologist at the Harambee School. The cost for this observation and evaluation will be \$125.00 and must be payable 5 days in advance of the scheduled appointment at Harambee (fee may be waived or reduced for students/families eligible for free/reduced lunch). The K-1 classroom observation and evaluation will take place by the middle of July.

Following the observation, the licensed psychologist will discuss the results of his/her findings with the school principal, who will in turn make the final decision. Parents/Guardians will be notified within a week of the final assessments results.

When a SIBLING of a Harambee student applies for early entrance to Kindergarten, a spot will be held for the child pending recommendation by our district's licensed psychologist and final approval by the school principal. The same fee applies as stated above.

If you have further questions, please call Doreen Herrera, student enrollment coordinator, at 651-379-2503. Thank you.

## Lottery Procedure 07-08

Applications processed in the lottery are taken from January 2 to March 9, 2007. This school conducts a computer-generated lottery for student applicants in this time frame. This is not first come-first serve.

Notification of acceptance or waiting list status will be done via the postal system during the first week of April.

All applications received after March 9 will be added to the waiting list in the order they are received.

Our school honors sibling preference; therefore, siblings will be accepted first, as space is available in those grades, and then additional spaces will be filled with students from the lottery.

Our school accepts applications for children that live in these ten districts. They are:

- South St. Paul Schools ISD 006
- West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan ISD 197
- Inver Grove Schools ISD 199
- North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale Schools ISD 622
- Roseville Area Schools ISD 623
- White Bear Lake Schools ISD 624
- Saint Paul Public Schools ISD 625
- Mahtomedi Schools ISD 832
- South Washington County Schools ISD 833
- Stillwater Area Schools ISD 834

If you have a student already enrolled at Harambee or Crosswinds, please call the school directly for a separate application that is for siblings.

The lottery is performed per grade, per district, and these students are used to fill the open spots using a computer-generated lottery. The number of open spots in grades 1 through 5 is dependent upon how many students don't return for the new school year. There will be approx. 75 Kindergarten openings. Even if children are placed on a waiting list, we call from the waiting list throughout the summer months through October to fill open spots and "no shows."