January 2017

Dear Prospective Family,

Thank you very much for your interest in Countryside School! We offer a unique educational opportunity for young people in an exceptionally warm, caring, and secure environment.

Enclosed is an Admission Application Packet for Kindergarten. Parents should visit the school before the written application is submitted, so that you may better understand the mission and philosophy of the school before making a decision about applying for admission. You are also invited to attend the Elementary Information Night on Thursday, February 2, at 7:00 p.m. to learn more about our program. Student visits are scheduled as part of the final stage of the application process.

If you have any questions relating to the procedures or forms, please contact Judy Kaplan, our Admissions Director, at the above number. All completed applications must be received by February 24, 2017, to be considered in the first round of the admissions cycle. Applications are gladly accepted after that date, but most openings are filled during the first round. Applications of eligible students who cannot be admitted in the first round, and those who apply after February 24, will be placed in a wait pool and will be considered in the event an opening should occur later in the year.

Again, thank you for your interest in Countryside School. I look forward to meeting you when you visit the school!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephanie Harman
Head of School
Countryside School
Application Procedure
Kindergarten

Countryside School enrolls students through an application process. This procedure helps identify children who will benefit most from the philosophy and goals of the school program, which is designed for students working at or above grade level. It also enables us to balance classrooms by age and gender.

Prospective Kindergarten students must be 5 years old by September 1, should show evidence of readiness for a full-day academic program, and should be motivated to learn.

To be considered for admission to the 2017/2018 school year, a completed application should be submitted by **February 24, 2017**. Acceptance decisions will be made by March 17. Late applications will be handled on a space-available basis only.

Application consists of:

**Stage I: Parent visit**
Tour of school and/or attendance at Information Meeting (Thursday, Feb.2, 2017)

**Stage II: Written application**
1. Applicant information sheet with photo
2. $50.00 non-refundable application fee
3. Parent questionnaire (2 parts)
4. Recommendation Form (one required; up to three accepted)
5. Financial aid application (if relevant). Please read the Financial Aid pages in this packet, and access the FAST application link on our website.

**Stage III: Student visit**
Student visit to Countryside School on Saturday, March 11, by invitation.
Invitations will be issued by email after all applications have been reviewed.

**Nondiscrimination Policy:** Countryside School admits academically qualified students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of gender, sexual identity, race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, admission policies, scholarship programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs.
**Application for Admission for 2017/2018**

4301 W. Kirby Avenue  
Champaign, Illinois 61822  
(217) 355-1253 • fax (217) 355-7492  

All information provided to the school is strictly confidential. This form is to be completed by a parent or guardian of the applicant. A $50 non-refundable application fee must be attached. The fee covers processing and screening costs and will not be applied toward tuition.

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**Applicant**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boy</th>
<th>Girl</th>
<th>(please circle)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Full Legal Name

Name student prefers (nickname)__________________________

Date of Birth ____________________________  
Age ____________________________

Place of Birth ____________________________  
Citizenship ____________________________

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**Parents**

1st parent  
Mr. Mrs. Ms. (please circle)__________________________

Home Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone Number ____________________________

Email Address ____________________________

2nd parent  
Mr. Mrs. Ms. (please circle)__________________________

Home Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone Number ____________________________

Email Address ____________________________

---

Are parents separated or divorced? ________

If so, with whom is the applicant living? __________________________________________________________

Should correspondence be mailed to both parents? __________________________________________________

Employer ____________________________

Occupation ____________________________

Business Address ____________________________

Work Phone Number ____________________________

---

Please list schools attended by the applicant (begin with current school year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School attended</th>
<th>Date attended</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

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Who referred you to Countryside or how did you learn about the school? ____________________________

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I certify that the information provided on this application is accurate and complete.

__________________________ (parent’s or guardian’s signature)  
(date)
Parent Questionnaire - Part 1
Countryside School
Kindergarten

The information you provide below and the following checklist will help us get a sense of your child’s abilities, interests, and personal style. Please feel free to add any information you think might be useful in giving us a good picture of your child.

Child’s Name ___________________________________________ Birth date ____________

Siblings ___________________________________________ Birth date ____________

Language spoken at home ________________________________

1. What four adjectives best describe your child?

__________________________________________  ______________________________________

__________________________________________  ______________________________________

2. Please describe your child’s strengths and talents.

3. What are your child’s special interests and hobbies?

(over)
4. Please describe any areas that you feel need to be particularly encouraged in your child’s growth and development.

5. What are your goals for your child?

6. Does your child have any chronic medical or psychological conditions or disabilities? If so, please explain.

7. Why do you think Countryside School would be a good match for your child?
Parent Questionnaire-Part 2
Kindergarten

Student’s name __________________________

Please indicate where, on each continuum, you feel your child falls for each of the items below. You may add brief comments if you wish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>not at all</th>
<th>always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Respects authority</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Gets along well with peers</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Responds well to redirection or correction</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Recognizes letters of alphabet</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Identifies consonant sounds with letters</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Identifies short vowel sounds</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Attempts to write words. May use invented spelling</td>
<td>X X X X X X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Able to read independently (please check all that apply):
   - _____ two and three letter words
   - _____ phonics readers
   - _____ easy readers
   - _____ chapter books

9. Can count up to which number: ___________

10. Recognizes / reads numerals to ___________

11. Other math skills (please list) ________________________________________________________________

12/2/16
Countryside School
Recommendation Form for students entering Kindergarten
for 2017-2018 School Year

To the applicant: Please print the student's name on the first line below and give this form to at least one teacher, past or present. Include with each form a stamped envelope addressed to Judy Kaplan, Admissions, Countryside School, 4301 W. Kirby, Champaign, Illinois 61822. Please mark the envelope CONFIDENTIAL.

Name of Student:________________ Applying for grade _____________

Current School:_________________________________________________ Current grade _____________

To the recommendation writer: The above-named student is an applicant for admission to Countryside School. Countryside School is dedicated to offering a challenging and rewarding program to students who are motivated to learn. We would appreciate your candid and confidential evaluation of the applicant. Please mail the completed form directly to Countryside School. This form is for Admissions Committee review only. It is not available for applicant or parental review. Thank you!

In what grades do you or did you teach this applicant? __________________________________________________________

How long have you known the applicant? __________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Traits</th>
<th>Advanced for age</th>
<th>Appropriate for age</th>
<th>Needs development</th>
<th>Below age level</th>
<th>Comments:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic potential</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic achievement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-motivation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effort/initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intellectual curiosity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attention span</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization of work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to follow directions</td>
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<td>Ability to work independently</td>
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<td>Ability to work in a group</td>
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<td>Ability to express ideas orally</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine motor skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross motor skills</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character and Personality Traits</th>
<th>Advanced for age</th>
<th>Appropriate for age</th>
<th>Needs development</th>
<th>Below age level</th>
<th>Comments:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emotional maturity</td>
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<td>Self-confidence</td>
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<td>Integrity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sense of responsibility</td>
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<td>Social relationship with peers</td>
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<td>Interaction with adults</td>
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<td>Sense of humor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creativity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Respect for others</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Concern for others</td>
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</table>
Please circle the words that you feel describe this student:

aggressive  confident  easily discouraged  irritable  organized  self-centered
anxious  conscientious  follower  loner  over-protected  self-disciplined
articulate  cooperative  happy  manipulative  perfectionist  shy
average  disobedient  helpful  motivated  positive leader  social
cheerful  distracting  honest  negative leader  responsible  well-liked

Please write a few words of recommendation in the space provided below. Include your impressions about this student’s academic ability, work habits, and relationships with peers.

___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please comment on this applicant’s attendance, behavior in the classroom, attitude, and emotional maturity.

___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Parental expectations, cooperation, and involvement with the school (please describe):

___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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</table>

Reading Readiness: ________ ________ ________ ____________________________
Math Readiness: ________ ________ ________ ____________________________
Reading level: _______________________________________________________
Math level: ____________________________________________________________

English fluency, if not native English speaker ____________________________

I recommend this candidate: **Enthusiastically**  **Strongly**  **Fairly Strongly**  **Without Enthusiasm**  **Not Recommended**  

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Name _____________________________________________________________ Position______________________________
School __________________________________________________________ Phone______________________________
E-mail __________________________________________________________ Date______________________________

12/2/16