

## **Guilford Public Schools**

### **NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

Public Act 98-243, an Act Concerning Early Reading Success, contains a provision which changes school districts' obligations concerning compulsory school attendance. This provision lowers the compulsory education age from age seven to age five. It also permits parents to withhold their child from a formal education program at age five for one year and then again at age six for one year. At age seven, the child must be enrolled in an education program as described in Section 10-184 of the Connecticut General Statutes and no additional delays are permitted.

The 'opt-out' process described in the Statute imposes three conditions:

- The parent or person having control of the child must personally appear at the elementary school in their district;
- The school district shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system; and
- The parent or person having control of the child must sign an option form exempting their child from attendance at the public school."

Parents opting to exempt their child may pick-up the required form at their local elementary school where educational opportunities will be explained to them.