

PROGRAM ASSIGNMENT

General Procedures

The assignment of students to grade one will always be carried out in a manner that provides optimal learning environments for all students.

Generally, students will be required to attend school in the attendance area in which they reside, unless the Superintendent has granted special permission, the student is participating in the French Immersion Program through the below process, or school location is determined by a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

Special permission may be granted for the following reasons:

1. If the change involves a student with a disability, a hardship case, or if there are medical considerations.
2. If the change appears to be in the interests of the child, of the schools, and/or for disciplinary and administrative reasons.
3. If the legal residency of a child changes from one attendance area to another during the school year and the parents wish the child to remain in his/her former school; permission will not be extended beyond current school year.

School bus transportation will not be provided for students attending school outside their attendance area unless they can be accommodated on existing bus routes and schedules or the placement has been made pursuant to the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan.

The Superintendent has the authority to assign or reassign students to an elementary school other than his/her neighborhood school if the other school is better suited to address the student's educational and/or special educational needs.

Grade One Assignment Procedures

Each year the district will provide families with information regarding the Elementary programs. The district will provide this information in various formats as determined by the Superintendent.

Each year the Superintendent will:

1. Determine the level of interest in the grade 1 English and French programs.
2. Accommodate and assign all students to grade 1 English who select English.

3. Determine the number of grade one English and French Immersion sections in each school based on the established format:
 - Each Elementary school will have a minimum of two English Innovation Pathways classes
 - French Immersion classes will be determined equitably across the Elementary Schools, given the constraints of the number of classrooms available, enrollment numbers and funding
 - If enrollment numbers require that an additional Grade 1 section is needed, the Superintendent will determine whether that section will be English or French and in which school the section will be located based on the needs and resources of the district.
4. Continue to prioritize school building assignment for siblings, however siblings will not have priority for assignment to a program.
5. Hold Grade One lotteries in the event that the demand a program in a school exceeds the number of available seats in that school.

Grade One Program Lotteries

In the event that the demand for a program exceeds the number of available seats the Superintendent will assign students based on the results of lotteries as detailed below.

Lottery Detail

The initial lottery will typically take place after March 1st and before April 15th. The lotteries will be conducted by the Superintendent. Results of the lotteries (including assignment and waitlist order) will be communicated on an individual basis. The assigned seats will be determined using a computer generated random number process. Multiples (twins, triplets, etc..) will enter the lotteries as a single entry. Waitlists for open seats for all lotteries will remain in effect until the tenth day of school.

Lottery Order

1. School-based Lottery for Kindergarten students attending the MPS as of March 1st.

If seats still exist at one or more schools

2. District-wide lottery for Kindergarten students attending the MPS as of March 1st that have been waitlisted at their home school and would voluntarily leave their home school.

If seats still exist at one or more schools

3. School Based Lottery for Kindergarten students who begin attending the MPS sometime after March 1st through the end of the school year.

If seats still exist at one or more schools

4. School Based Lottery for students new to the MPS in Grade 1.

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