

2021 - 2022 District Controlled Open Enrollment Plan

Nine Quality Indicators of Consideration

1. Application Process

Osceola School District offers parents and guardians an opportunity to choose an appropriate school for their children through several methods. These choice opportunities provide clear information so families can make the best decision to meet the educational needs of their children. Application information is available on the district's website at <https://www.osceolaschools.net/choices>, on the Educational Choices and Innovation Department's website: <https://www.osceolaschools.net/educationalchoicesandinnovations> and on each school website.

While the School District of Osceola County makes every effort to accommodate choice requests, some district schools are near capacity; therefore, the number of seats available may vary within a range depending on the capacity of each school.

Parents who are interested in their children attending a school other than their assigned school, based on home address, must complete an online choice application, following choice enrollment windows. This application qualifies the student to participate in a lottery process shortly after the choice enrollment window closes if the choice requests exceed the number of available seats. Parents are notified of the choice enrollment window via the district website, parent portal, press releases, district wide call-outs, mail-outs, flyers sent home via backpack, posters placed at the schools, social media, community events and choice fairs.

Choice applications received after the choice enrollment window are placed on a waiting list until spaces become available at the requested choice school.

2. Process for Declaring School

- Parents or guardians inform the school district of intent to participate in a choice program by completing the District Choice Application available on the websites mentioned in Section 1. The Educational Choices and Innovation Department processes the Choice applications. Applications are due following choice windows and parents are notified of acceptance in programs in late Spring.
 - Approval of Choice applications subsequent to the established deadlines will be granted for unique situations and will be determined on an individual basis by the Administration.
 - Choice for Capacity will continue to be open after the deadlines for students who have moved out of zone during the school year or during the summer and wish to remain at their current school of attendance/enrollment.

The timeline utilized for choice application requests for the 2020-2021 school year is provided below.

- November 18th – January 28th

3. Sibling Placement

- Every effort is made by The School District of Osceola County to accommodate the placement of a sibling to any student already enrolled in a school if space is available and if the student meets admission criteria, if applicable.

4. Lottery Procedure to Determine Student Assignment

- At the end of the enrollment window if the number of applicants exceeds the number of available seats, a lottery shall be conducted.

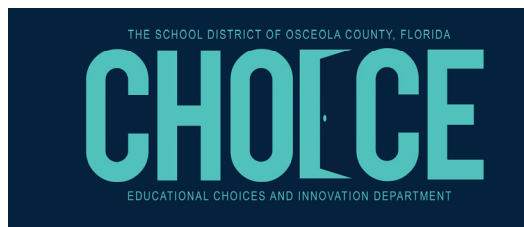
5. Appeals Process for Hardship Cases

Parents may apply for Choice for Capacity to any school in the district. These applications are approved based on space availability and program of study. Consideration for siblings is accounted for in the process. In the event an application is denied, parents may appeal to the Deputy Superintendent of Human Services.

6. Procedure to Maintain Socioeconomic, Demographic, and Racial Balance.

A district-wide redistricting process has been established. The criteria for redistricting includes:

- Protect the interest of all students/schools,
- Student safety,
- School capacity,
- Concurrency guidelines,
- Socio-economic balance,



- Ethnicity balance,
- Growth – Increases and Declines
- Minimum school guarantee, and
- Transportation considerations

7. Availability of Transportation

- Transportation is provided for eligible choice programs through a corridor busing system. If a student is accepted in a choice program listed below, transportation information is provided to parents by the choice school.

The Choice programs eligible for transportation include:

1. Arts – Osceola County School for the Arts and Poinciana Academy of Fine Arts
2. Technology – Professional and Technical High School (PATHS)
3. STEM – Chestnut Elementary School for Science and Engineering, Discovery Intermediate and Poinciana High School
4. Dual Language – Kissimmee Elementary School and Ventura Elementary School
5. International Baccalaureate (IB) – Thacker Avenue Elementary for International Studies, Parkway Middle School, Celebration High School and Gateway High School

Parents are responsible for transportation if the child(ren) is accepted to any other school and/or Choice program.

8. Process for Promoting Strong Parental Involvement, Including the Designation of a Parent Liaison

- The School District of Osceola County will work in partnership with families and the community to ensure all learners develop the essential knowledge and skills to strengthen our thriving community.
- The Executive Director of the Educational Choices and Innovation Department serves as the parent liaison to assist parents' involvement in making educational choices. Personnel within the department and at each school site also assist in promoting parental choice.

9. Strategy for Establishing an Information Clearinghouse

- The School District provides Choice Program information to parents via:
 - Districtwide
 - District website
 - School websites
 - The Educational Choices and Innovation Department also promotes choice programs via:
 - Department websites
 - Attendance at community events
 - Informational handouts and marketing materials
 - School Tours
 - Parent Leadership Council Meetings for ELL students
 - Events:
 - Choice Fairs
 - Community Expos
 - Discover Osceola
 - Welcome Back events
 - School Events
 - Social Media Outlets
 - Direct phone calls and emails to parents