



St. Martin Parish School Board

Student Assignment Plan for Consideration and Public Feedback

The St. Martin Parish School Board is considering a new student assignment plan related to the ongoing desegregation case. The School Board is asking for feedback from parents and the community about this plan. The School Board will be taking any feedback it receives into consideration when finalizing any student assignment plan. The School Board will hold a special meeting the first week of January 2023 (date and time to be announced at a later time), where public comments are encouraged before the School Board votes on a plan to submit to the Court.

Feedback can be submitted in any of the following ways:

1. Online at the following link: <https://forms.gle/wASFbAFW4Khg8oKz5>
2. Written feedback can be submitted as follows:
 - a. at each school's main office
 - b. at the School Board's Central Office: **600 Corporate Boulevard, Breaux Bridge, LA 70517**
 - c. mailed to: **P.O. Box 1000, Breaux Bridge, LA 70517**
 - d. texted or emailed to the following number and email address: **337-366-1115** or smpsfeedback@saintmartinschools.org

The School Board requests that feedback be submitted no later than **Wednesday, December 28, 2022** so that it can be gathered and prepared for the School Board to review prior to the vote.

The School Board is considering the following student assignment plan:

Catahoula Elementary School

1. Reopening Catahoula as it was at the time of closure: a PK-5 school.
2. The attendance zone boundaries would be the same as they were with no additional changes.
3. The attendance zone boundary map is attached below.

Majority-to-Majority Transfers

1. The School Board will continue offering M-to-M transfers.
2. The School Board will **not** require that M-to-M transfer applications be notarized.
3. All applications for students who qualify for an M-to-M will be granted.
4. The School Board will take additional steps to encourage M-to-M transfers. The School Board will hold parent/guardian meetings to provide M-to-M information, particularly for M-to-M transfers to St. Martinville PK-5 schools, at Teche Elementary School, Cecilia Primary School, and Parks Primary School, and Catahoula Elementary School.

Flexible Attendance Zones

The School Board has carefully considered flexible attendance zones and whether to offer flexible attendance zones in Breaux Bridge and St. Martinville that would allow students of any race to transfer to Parks schools. The School Board is considering **not** proposing such zones because they would not enhance or maintain desegregation.

Magnet Schools

The School Board is considering proposing the creation of Performing and Visual Arts themed magnet schools in St. Martinville for PK to 5th grade. The STEM/Robotics program currently offered in St. Martinville would continue. The School Board is considering the following for the initial implementation of new magnet:

1. Offering Dance PK to 5th grade.
2. Offering Visual Arts (drawing, painting, etc.) PK to 5th grade.
3. Starting the magnet school programs beginning in August 2023 for the 2023-2024 school year.

At the Early Learning Center (grades PK-1), all students would be exposed to the offerings of STEM/Robotics, Dance, and Visual Arts on a weekly basis. This will allow young students and their parents/guardians to gauge their interest in these activities.

Students at St. Martinville Primary (grades 2-5) will be able to focus on their interests. Students may apply for Dance or Visual Arts. Students may also choose STEM/Robotics without having to apply for it. There will be limited seats for Dance as well as Visual Arts. The School Board is considering the following:

1. Offering two (2) sections of Dance per grade at SMP.
2. Offering one (1) section of Visual Arts per grade at SMP.
3. All students at SMP not in Dance or Visual Arts will be offered STEM/Robotics.

Admissions Criteria for Performing and Visual Arts Magnet Schools

The School Board is considering several options for admissions criteria for the Performing and Visual Arts Magnet:

Early Learning Center

No admission criteria or application process as all students attending the Early Learning Center will take all offerings (STEM/Robotics, Dance, Visual Arts) on a weekly basis.

St. Martinville Primary

Due to the limited seats available for Dance and also Visual Arts, the School Board is considering two alternative options. First, the School Board is considering preferences for admissions in the Performing and Visual Arts Magnet Schools including the following.

Admitting students into Dance and Visual Arts so that the program falls within the +/-15% demographic goal of the desegregation case with the following preferences:

1. Students who qualify for a Majority-to-Minority transfer into the St. Martinville zone have seats reserved for them.
2. Students currently zoned for St. Martinville schools will have second preference for seats.
3. Students who have siblings in Dance or Visual Arts will have third preference for seats.
4. Students of employees of the St. Martin Parish School System will have fourth preference for seats.

Alternatively, the School Board is considering not using race as an admissions criteria while still keeping preferences 2-4 for seats.

Performing and Visual Arts Magnet Lottery

The School Board is considering that a lottery may need to be conducted for admissions to the Performing and Visual Arts Magnet. In the event the School Board receives more applications for the Magnet School than there are allotted seats, a lottery will need to be conducted. If that happens, all applications will be put into the lottery.

The lottery would be a public event that students and parents could attend and observe. Students would be admitted according to the lottery selection order and admissions preferences. Additionally, for those not selected for a seat, a wait list would be created.

Renaming Early Learning Center and St. Martinville Primary

Because the School Board is considering the creation of Performing and Visual Arts Magnet Schools in St. Martinville, the School Board is also considering renaming Early Learning Center and St. Martinville Primary. The School Board is considering several options but welcomes public feedback and any additional suggestions for a new name.

Early Learning Center

The School Board is considering renaming Early Learning Center to:

1. St. Martin Parish Early Magnet School
2. St. Martin Parish Early Magnet Academy
3. St. Martin Parish Early STEM and Performing and Visual Arts Magnet School

St. Martinville Primary

The School Board is considering renaming St. Martinville Primary to:

1. St. Martin Parish Magnet School
2. St. Martin Parish Magnet Academy
3. St. Martin Parish STEM and Performing and Visual Arts Magnet School

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