
In-District Choice/Enrollment

Mapleton Public Schools, (the District), functions as a “District of Choice,” allowing in-district students to select any school within the district, regardless of their residential location based on availability. This choice is guided by the policy and its accompanying regulation (JFBA-R), which outlines the process for in-district students and their families to follow when choosing a school.

The Welcome Center

Mapleton Public Schools provides a variety of unique educational programs designed around different learning philosophies. To help families navigate these options, the district has established a Welcome Center. New students, those beginning their schooling, or those considering a switch to a different school within the district should contact the Welcome Center. The Welcome Center offers guidance on school choices and assists in the decision-making process.

Enrollment/Transfer Within the Enrollment Window

At the beginning of each school year, the Welcome Center will announce the enrollment window for the upcoming school year to all in-district students and families. This announcement will also be posted on the district's website and in other district publications. New students, those starting school for the first time, or students interested in transferring schools should contact the Welcome Center during the enrollment window to initiate the enrollment process. Enrollment decisions, based on the availability of space in specific programs or schools, are determined by the Welcome Center and are final. Students are enrolled on a first-come, first-served basis. For information on the wait pool and lottery procedures, please refer to JFBA-R.

Enrollment/Transfer Outside of the Enrollment Window

Students who move into the district during the school year or who miss the enrollment window should contact the Welcome Center immediately. Enrollment operates on a first-come, first-served basis. Students residing within the district may still enroll after the enrollment window has ended, but their options will be limited to schools or programs with available spaces. Students who are already enrolled and wish to transfer to a different school should contact their School Director. The Director, in coordination with the Welcome Center, will identify which schools have openings and provide guidance to the student and their family. It is important to note that the timing of transfers is crucial, and transfers may be restricted during certain windows of time, such as during state

assessments. The School Director will also discuss the potential impacts of mid-year transfers on a high school student's credits and projected graduation date.

Auto-Enrollment for Subsequent School Years

Students in grades K-12 who wish to continue at the same school they attended the previous school year do not need to re-enroll, provided that the next grade level is offered at their current school. However, it's important to note that students enrolled as 4-year-olds in preschool are an exception; they will not be automatically enrolled in kindergarten for the following year. Families of preschool students must actively select a school for their child's kindergarten placement.

Transportation

As a "District of Choice," Mapleton ensures that transportation to and from school is provided for all in-district students who live beyond a safe walking distance - defined as one mile or more - from their school of choice. Families who do not have a safe walking path to school should contact Transportation Services before the school year starts to inquire about bus stop locations. Transportation Services adheres to established policies and procedures to determine bus stop locations and manage student transportation effectively. Additionally, transportation will be provided as required by state and federal laws for homeless students and students with disabilities. For more information, refer to policy JFABD: Homeless Students.

Special Education Students

The district will not require an applicant's IEP or disability status to be provided until after the applicant has been admitted. Thereafter, the district must consider the request for open enrollment or transfer to another school or program in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

Rescinding Choice Enrollment

The district reserves the right to rescind or amend a student's enrollment offer or school assignment, including reassigning students to another school if it determines:

1. There is overcrowding of facilities that results in inadequate space or resources for enrolled students as determined by district administration.
2. The school discontinues a particular program or cannot continue to meet the special needs of a student as defined by the student's IEP.
3. The student no longer satisfies the eligibility criteria required by the school or program as published by the school for all students enrolled in the program.
4. Any information is falsified or withheld from the district in connection with the enrollment process.

5. Prior to the start of the school year, a change has occurred that impacts a student's priority and their position on the waitlist for the school.
6. For other reasons authorized by law and considered by the district to be in the best interest of the student or school, including the grounds for denial of admission set forth below.

The district may adopt temporary rules governing choice enrollments to accommodate the opening of new schools and the closing of schools. The superintendent or designee must approve the temporary rules.

Administrative Transfers

Administrative transfers are necessary for a student to move from one Mapleton school to another Mapleton school after the last school day in August of the current school year. Administrative transfers are not intended to accommodate students who fail to request a change in schools during the enrollment window period or whose enrollment request was not approved. Instead, they should only be utilized in limited circumstances that support the best interests of the student and the school. The limited circumstances may include but are not limited to medical transfers, program transfers, transfers to accommodate student-specific hardships and transfers initiated in response to a court order or Department of Human Services request. Administrative transfers that may result in a change of placement for a student with a disability will be made in accordance with applicable law.

Nondiscrimination

The Board, the Superintendent, other administrators, and all District employees are committed to non-discrimination in every aspect of policy enforcement and decision-making as outlined in policy AE – Nondiscrimination Equal Opportunity

Adopted 2013 by the Board of Education for Mapleton Public Schools.

Revised September 22, 2020.

Revised May 22, 2024.

Revised February 26, 2025.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

C.R.S. § 22-1-102 (definition of district resident)

C.R.S. § 22-32-109(1)(II) (Board duty to adopt policies requiring enrollment decisions to be made in a nondiscriminatory manner)

C.R.S. § 22-32-110(1)(m) (power to fix boundaries)

C.R.S. §§ 22-36-101 et seq. (open enrollment)

C.R.S. §§ 22-36-107 (inbound active-duty military families open enrollment and registration)

1 CCR 301-8. Rules 4.03 and 8.07 (prohibiting administrative units from inquiring about a transferring child's IEP or disability status until after the child has been admitted)

CROSS REFERENCES:

AE: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

EEA: Student Transportation

IHBG: Home Schooling

JFABD: Homeless Students

JFABE: Students in Foster Care

JFBB: Inter-District Choice/Open Enrollment

JJJ: Extracurricular Activity Eligibility