



WHAT IS A PARENT CHOICE SCHOOL?

Parent choice schools represent an evolution in the education of our students. These settings offer students and parents an opportunity to choose the learning environment that best suits their goals and interests.

WHAT SCHOOLS IN BENTONVILLE SCHOOLS ARE PARENT CHOICE SCHOOLS?

Apple Glen Elementary, The International School at Mary Mae Jones, Ruth Barker Middle, Sugar Creek Arts Academy & Thomas Jefferson Leadership Academy

WHAT ARE THE LEARNING MODELS FOR THOSE SCHOOLS?

Apple Glen Elementary is a Visible Learning School.

The International School at Mary Mae Jones offers kindergarten through fourth-grade students an International Baccalaureate Primary Programme.

Ruth Barker Middle School has applied for candidacy to the International Baccalaureate Programme to begin in the fall of 2025.

Sugar Creek Arts Academy will host an arts integration learning model.

Thomas Jefferson Leadership Academy will offer an enhanced academic setting by creating student opportunities to serve their community and engage with local and state leaders to tackle real-world concerns.

WHEN DOES THE APPLICATION PROCESS BEGIN?

Applications will be accepted online from February 10 to February 21. If your incoming kindergartener is interested in a parent choice school, a parent or guardian will first register for kindergarten and then for the parent choice school.

HOW WILL THE LOTTERY SYSTEM WORK?

Priority will be given to families with siblings in the same school, Bentonville Schools' employees and students who are currently enrolled in a school at or above enrollment capacity. Those schools include Centerton Gamble Elementary, Vaughn Elementary and Evening Star Elementary.

WILL YOU PROVIDE BUS SERVICE TO PARENT CHOICE SCHOOLS?

Yes. Transportation will be provided using a regional bus stop system. Bus stop information will be provided to accepted students after enrollment is finalized.

HOW LONG IS A CHILD COMMITTED TO A PARENT CHOICE SCHOOL UPON ENROLLMENT?

A student who is accepted to any parent choice school is committed for one year.

WILL MY CHILD NEED TO REAPPLY EACH YEAR FOR THE PARENT CHOICE SCHOOL?

No. Once a student is admitted, he/she may remain at that parent choice school through fourth grade.

IF MY CHILD WISHES TO RETURN TO HIS/HER ZONED SCHOOL, CAN HE/SHE DO SO?

By accepting a seat at a parent choice school, a child gives up his/her seat at the family's zoned elementary for that academic year.

MY CHILD IS ZONED FOR A PARENT CHOICE SCHOOL, BUT HE/SHE ISN'T INTERESTED IN THE LEARNING MODEL. CAN MY STUDENT ATTEND ANOTHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?

Yes. Your student may be assigned to another school where space is available. Transportation will be provided using our regional bus stop system.