



HIGHLAND HIGHLIGHTS

Montgomery County
Public Schools

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FOREIGN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS

MCPS offers three Spanish, two French, and two Chinese elementary immersion programs at seven sites in the county. The French and Spanish1 programs are full immersion. The Chinese programs are partial immersion. In full immersion, all core subjects, including reading/language arts, are taught in the target language. In partial immersion, some core subjects are taught in the target language. Some immersion programs are based on geographic location and/or give preference to students for whom that school is their home school. For more information, please visit the special programs website above, or call the Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services (DCCAPS) at 240-740-2540. The immersion lottery process application dates are Feb. 1-May 3. Montgomery County residents may submit a MCPS Form 306-1, Interest Form for the lottery without a MCPS ID number. Completed immersion interest forms can be returned to DCCAPS, Spring Mill Field Office, 11721 Kemp Mill Rd., Silver Spring by May 3, 2019. DCCAPS will mail student selection notifications to parents and will correspond with elementary schools regarding student selection in May 2019. For questions regarding the lottery process, please call 240-740-2540.

STUDENT TRANSFER APPLICATION SEASON SCHEDULED FROM FEB. 1—APRIL 1, 2019

Montgomery County parents/guardians who wish to request a Change of School Assignment (COSA) for their children from their home school may begin the process during the upcoming transfer season—February 1 through April 1, 2019.

Except for students in the Northeast Consortium (NEC), Downcounty Consortium (DCC), and Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC) areas, students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) are expected to attend the school in the established area in which they live (home school) or where they are assigned in accordance with their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students may apply for a COSA from the home school or the school of assignment through the IEP process based on the following criteria:

When a documented unique hardship is shown. Problems that are common to a large number of families do not constitute a unique hardship.

When a family moves within Montgomery County, preference to remain in the original school will be considered to complete the current school year only, with the exception that Grade 11 students will be permitted to stay through graduation.

When a younger sibling seeks to attend the school where an older sibling will be enrolled in the regular/general school program, or a special education program, during the year the younger sibling seeks to enroll.

When an older sibling attends a magnet, language immersion, or other application program, a COSA may be approved to the regular school program for a younger sibling on a case-by-case basis. Such approval requires consideration of available classroom space, grade-level enrollment, staffing allocations, or other factors that impact the schools involved. The criteria above regarding siblings does not apply if a boundary change has occurred.

The transfer process begins in the home school where parents/guardians may request the Change of School Assignment (COSA) Information Booklet that contains the COSA form, describes the process, and provides useful information. Beginning the first week of February 2019, the COSA booklet will be available in schools and online on the Student Transfers web page at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/transfers. The booklet will be available in both English and Spanish. Exempt countywide programs that do not fall under the transfer guidelines are listed in the information booklet.

CENTER FOR ENRICHED STUDIES

During the 2018-2019 school year, all Grade 3 students will be centrally reviewed for potential candidacy for the CES rather than parents submitting an application. MCPS offers both regional and local programs. Grade 3 students will be considered for a regional CES program, which is based on their address, unless they attend a school that houses a local program. Letters informing parents will be mailed in early February 2019. The deadline to decline or request testing is Friday, February 15, 2019. The form is to be returned to your child's school. Elementary schools that currently house a regional program include Lucy V. Barnsley, Chevy Chase, Clearspring, Cold Spring, Dr. Charles R. Drew, Fox Chapel, Mill Creek Towne, Oak View and Pine Crest. For additional information, contact the Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services at 240-740-2540.

PRE-K/HEAD START REGISTRATION

MCPS Prekindergarten and Head Start programs offer a high-quality educational experience to income-eligible children in order to prepare them with the foundational knowledge and skills necessary for school success in kindergarten and beyond. There are 111 Prekindergarten classes and 34 Head Start classes throughout the county.

Additionally, a Prekindergarten Pilot program at seven Title I schools offers a full-day prekindergarten class to 160 children; children must be 4 years old by September 1, 2019 and families must meet income guidelines, slightly higher than regular prekindergarten guidelines. Registration for the 2019-2020 school year will begin on March 1, 2019.

Walk-in applications are accepted Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at: Rocking Horse Road Center 4910 Macon Road, Room 143, Rockville, Maryland 20852. Appointments are available if preferred. Call 240-740-4530 for an appointment.

IMPORTANT DATES

2/5/19—PTA Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

2/6/19—Report Card Distribution

2/11/19—Cyber Safety Workshop @9am (Media Center)

2/13/19—Winter Concert @7:00 p.m.

2/14/19—Valentine's Day Parties 2:15p.m.—3:15 p.m.

2/18/19—No School—Presidents' Day!

3/1/19—Early Release Day—students dismissed @ 12:55 p.m.

**CAR-RIDER LOOP:
PARENTS PLEASE
DO NOT LEAVE
YOUR VEHICLE UN-
ATTENDED AT ANY
TIME AND PLEASE
DO NOT BLOCK
OTHER CARS! If you
are picking up a child
in the car rider loop,
please remain in your
vehicle-thank you!**

