

School Selection

**Ms. Jess
School Counselor**

What is SDP School Selection?

- The District's online application process for K-12 students
 - This is the ONLY time they can apply for District Schools
- Centralized lottery system and waitlist
- SDP Students submit an internal online application through their school portals
- ONLY School District of Philadelphia Schools
 - No Charters or Private Schools
- Students can apply to up to 5 High Schools and/or programs

How Do Students and Families Apply?

- School Selection Portal which is located in the Infinite Campus Student Portal.
 - There is an icon in your Message Center that says “School Selection”
- Families can also access the portal if they are signed up with a Family Portal through the District

Applications

- The Application system is called “Enroll”
- Steppers will be available on the SDP Website
- For students who have been at Farrell for 6th and 7th grade their information and data will pre-populate
 - *If your student is new or was at a different school in 6th or 7th grade, please let me know so we can gather transcripts that can be uploaded*
- Students and families can apply to up to 5 schools or programs
 - The selections are not ranked and are all weighted equally, so the order does not matter
 - Selections can be changed up until Nov 4 at 11:59pm

Important Dates

Date	Activity
September 16, 2022	School Selection Application Opens at 4:00 PM
October 14 - 15, 2022	High School Fair
November 4, 2022	School Selection Application Closes at 11:59 PM
November 7, 2022	Evaluation Phase Begins (for schools and programs with admission criteria)
November 16, 2022	LeGare Review Begins
November 16, 2022	Eligibility for Performance Schools Communicated to Families at 5:00 PM
November 17-23, 2022	Schedule Auditions
November 18, 2022	Appeals Window Open for Performance and Project-based Schools
November 21, 2022	Auditions and Project-based Presentations Begin
November 30, 2022	Appeals Due for Students Applying to Performance and Project-based Schools

Important Dates

Date	Activity
December 2, 2022	Evaluation Phase Ends (for schools and programs with admission criteria)
December 7, 2022	Eligibility for Non-Performance/Other Criteria-based Schools Communicated to Families at 5:00 PM
December 8, 2022	Appeals Window Open for Non-Performance/Other Criteria-based Schools
December 12, 2022	Appeals Final Decisions for Performance and Project-based Schools
December 15, 2022	Appeals Due for Students Applying to Other Criteria-based Schools
December 16, 2022	LeGare Review Ends
December 19, 2022	Auditions and Project-based Presentations Begin for Students with LeGare Review or Appeals
December 23, 2022	Auditions and Project-based Presentations End
January 5, 2023	Appeals Final Decisions for Other Criteria-based Schools
January 13, 2023	Lottery Results Communicated to Students and Families at 5:00 PM (Students and parents can view their post lottery school options in student and parent portals)

Types of Schools

There are A LOT of Schools to Choose From!

The School District has 55 High Schools

- 21 Catchment School (Neighborhood Schools)
 - *Northeast High School*
- 12 City Wide Schools
- 22 Criteria Based Schools (Special Admissions Schools)

The admission criteria for each High School changes depending on the type of school it is.

Catchment Schools

Catchment Schools(Neighborhood Schools)

- Catchment Schools have an open admissions policy for students who have attended 8th grade in the school's feeder pattern.
- Farrell's Catchment School is **Northeast High School**
 - If you currently live outside the Catchment for Farrell, you may have a different Catchment School.
 - You see your Catchment School in the application
- If your student applies to no schools in the selection window, they will automatically be placed in their catchment.

City Wide Schools

City Wide Schools (CW)

- These high schools accept students from across the city.
- Most of these schools contain Career and Technical Programs(CTE) or specialized programs
- No admission criteria, purely lottery based

City Wide Schools (CW)

- Building 21
- Constitution
- Dobbins
- Mastbaum
- Phila. Military Academy
- Randolph
- Robeson
- Swenson
- The LINC
- The School of the Future
- The U School
- Workshop School

Criteria Based Schools

Criteria Based Schools (Special Admissions)

- Each of these high schools has its own set of admissions criteria related to attendance, punctuality, grades, and standardized test scores(PSSA's).
- All students may apply to these special admission high schools and should carefully consider the set of admissions criteria and their own scholastic record prior to applying.
- Criteria Based Schools are lottery based. Students who meet their criteria are all placed into the selection pool.

Criteria Based Schools (Special Admissions)

Criteria Based Schools focus on a certain areas/specialties

- Performing Arts: Theatre, Art, Dance, Vocal,
- Academics/College Prep
- Science/Environmental Science

Criteria Based Schools (Special Admissions)

Criteria to be considered:

- **Grades** from 6th and 7th grade years
 - Best grade in each subject from last 2 years
- **PSSA Scores from 7th grade/ Spring 2022**
 - Terranova test can be used for student who did not take the PSSAs
 - **Terranova is not available to students who took the PSSAs according to Deputy Chief from Office of Assessment and in the Planning and Evidence-based Supports Office (PESO).
- **Attendance**
 - 95% for most
 - Unexcused absences are used to determine attendance

Criteria Based Schools (Special Admissions)

Students who meet the outlined criteria for the school will be placed into the lottery pool or will move onto the next phase

- Possible additional criteria depending on school
 - Interview
 - Portfolio: For performing arts schools
 - Audition
 - Project based assignment
 - ** Writing samples/essays/writing tests are no longer required

Criteria Based Schools (Special Admissions)

- Academy at Palumbo
- Arts Academy at Rush
- Bodine
- Carver Engineering and Science
- Central
- Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)
- Franklin Learning Center
- Girard Academic Music Prog. (GAMP)
- Hill-Freedman World Academy
- Lankenau
- Masterman
- Motivation
- Northeast Med/Eng/Aero Magnet
- Northeast Pre IB Magnet
- Parkway Center City Middle College
- Parkway NW for Peace & Social Justice
- Parkway West
- Philadelphia HS for Girls
- Saul Agricultural Sciences
- Science Leadership Academy (SLA)
- SLA at Beeber
- Washington IB

Considerations

Things to think about...

- Distance from home address
 - Students who live 1.5 miles away from school qualify for SEPTA KeyCards
 - Look up distance on the map and SEPTA Route
 - Wake up times and travel times
- School Size
 - How small or big of a school do you want to go to?
- College and Career Goals
 - Does your student want to earn college credits in High School?
 - Do they want a jump start on their career goals and interests?
- Career and Technical Education(CTE) Program
 - Accounting and Financial Services, Animal Sciences, Architectural Drafting, Auto Body/Body Programs, Biotechnology, Business administration, Cosmetology, Computer systems...many many more
- Club and Sports interests

Legare

Legare Process

- Allows an impartial review process for qualifying students that will now begin in November (this is new).
- Applies to 8th graders who have one of the following
 - IEP
 - 504 Plan
 - English Learners (EL)
 - ** **Does not apply to Gifted IEPs**
- Only applies to Criteria Based Schools
- Allows for ONE aspect of criteria to be waived for specific reasons
 - Ex: excusing attendance criteria due to a medical condition
 - Ex. excusing math grade due to student needing additional math support from IEP

Legare Process

- From the SDP Website
- “Please know that LeGare does **not** guarantee admission into a criteria-based high school. Students must still meet or come close to the advertised admissions criteria and the school **must** be able to provide reasonable accommodations for the student to be successful **without** substantially altering the way the curriculum is delivered.”
- Students who have been accepted to a criteria based school are not eligible to a Legare Review. Even students who have been waitlisted

Legare Process

- What we do at school
 - I will communicate with families to inform you if your student is eligible for Legare
 - The School Based Team (Counselor, SPECM, and Nurse) work to put together an advocacy folder that is uploaded to the application.
 - Report Cards
 - Addendum Waiver
 - Copy of IEP or 504 Plan
 - ACCESS/ WIDA for EL students
 - Transition Assessment to identify competencies and interests

Legare Timeline

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Additional Information

Additional Information

- A District Wide High School Directory is in production and will be released soon. It will only be available online
- The High School Fair is back in person at the Pennsylvania Convention Center
 - Friday, October 14th 4PM-7PM
 - Saturday, October 15th 10AM - 3PM
- I am in the process of reaching out to High Schools for information sessions

Contact Me!

Email:

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All information will also be posted on the 8th Grade Google Classroom and Farrell's school website!