

Clarksburg School Choice Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarity and guidance to school families and administration on the School Choice program in the Clarksburg School.

Determinations regarding availability of school choice slots is based on what is best for students, and shall take into consideration class sizes and available resources.

Procedure:

Our practice in opening School Choice slots follow the guidance already provided by the state, found here: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/schoolchoice/choice-guide.html> and outlined below:

1. Each spring, at the **April School Committee Meeting**, members will vote on whether to open school choice slots and in which grades:

“Every year the school committee in each school district decides whether it will accept new enrollments under this program and, if so, in what grades.”
2. The School Committee will determine at that April meeting a time frame for the slots to remain open that does not extend past June 1.
3. At the **August School Committee meeting**, the committee can choose to revisit opening school choice slots for one more period of time that does not extend past Aug 20.
4. As per state guidance, lotteries will be conducted at the school within one week after the closing date of each open period:

“If more students apply than there are spaces available, the district will hold a lottery to select which students will be admitted.”
5. Siblings will be given preference for open choice slots as per state guidance in relation to siblings:

“A sibling of a child currently attending school in another district under school choice will receive preference in the admissions lottery.”
6. Clarksburg will not provide transportation for choice students as per state

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guidance in relation to bussing:

“Transportation is not provided for students attending another school district under this program. You are responsible for getting your child to and from the school.”

7. Clarksburg School is a K-8 district, therefore any student accepted under school choice law is guaranteed a seat at Clarksburg School through grade 8 graduation as long as the student remains continuously enrolled.
8. If it is determined that a child no longer resides in the Town of Clarksburg after having started the year as a resident, the child *may* be allowed to stay through the end of that school year in the best interest of not interrupting their education. At the close of that school year, the child must enroll in the school within the town they reside for the next school year, or apply for a school choice slot if open at Clarksburg School in accordance to steps 1-7 above.