

CHELMSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jay Lang, Ed.D., Superintendent

School Choice Guidelines 2020-2021

The Chelmsford School Committee has voted to allow up to fifteen (15) students living outside of Chelmsford to enroll in the Chelmsford Public Schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Chelmsford School Committee has voted to allow up to fifteen (15) students living outside of Chelmsford to enroll as follows: two (2) students at McCarthy/Parker Middle School in Grade 5, twelve (12) students at Chelmsford High School in Grade 9, and one (1) student at Chelmsford High School in Grade 10 for the 2020-2021 school year. Students who enroll through school choice will be able to continue through graduation, barring disciplinary issues.

The Chelmsford Public Schools will use the following guidelines with regard to enrolling students through school choice:

- 1) All students who reside in Massachusetts, outside of the Town of Chelmsford, and who are entering the grades specified above for the 2020-2021 school year are eligible to apply for the specified seats.
- 2) Per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 76, Section 12b, the Chelmsford Public Schools will not give preference for admission based on a student's characteristics, including the presence of a disability. Significant existing or pending disciplinary actions in the student's current district may result in denial of enrollment, per applicable state law.
- 3) The Chelmsford Public Schools will not provide transportation to school choice students. Parents/guardians are responsible for transporting the student to and from school. The student school day at McCarthy/Parker Middle Schools is from 8:19 a.m. – 2:40 p.m. and at Chelmsford High School is from 7:19 a.m. to 1:52 p.m.
- 4) Students who enroll through school choice will be able to continue through graduation, barring significant disciplinary issues. Students will not need to re-apply for subsequent years.
- 5) The application deadline is Friday, May 15, 2020 in order to be considered in the lottery. If all prospective slots are filled, applications received after that date will be placed at the end of the wait list in the order they are received.
- 6) The following documents are not required to apply, but will be required prior to confirming enrollment if a student is selected to attend through school choice:
 - a. School transcript;
 - b. School discipline record;
 - c. School attendance record;

- d. Health/immunization record;
- e. IEP/504 (if any)

Other documents, including a birth certificate or passport, will be required as part of the normal registration process that applies to all students.

- 7) All Chelmsford Public Schools policies and regulations will apply to school choice students.
- 8) Questions about the school choice application process should be directed to the Director of Business & Finance, Joanna Johnson-Collins, via e-mail at johnsoncollinsj@chelmsford.k12.ma.us or by phone at (978) 251-5100 x6931.
- 9) More information may be found at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/schoolchoice/choice-guide.html>