

## **SCHOOL CHOICE**

It is the policy of this School Committee to admit non-resident students under the terms and conditions of the Interdistrict School Choice Law (M.G.L. 76:12) and under the following local conditions:

1. That by April 1 of every school year, the number of spaces available to choice students for grades 1-6 will be determined by the school committee. Kindergarten spaces will be determined by June 1.
2. If consideration is being given to withdrawal from the provisions of the choice law for the upcoming school year, a public meeting will be held to review this decision by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Siblings of accepted children will be automatically accepted if a school choice application form is completed by January 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>. This automatic acceptance occurs only if the grade level has sufficient spaces as voted by the Committee.
4. That the selection of non-resident students for admission be in the form of a random drawing when the number of requests exceeds the number of available spaces at a particular grade level.
5. Any student who is accepted for admission under the provisions of this policy is entitled to remain in the District until completion of Grade 6, unless state funding is not available for the program. Any student that attends any Union 61 school under school choice for a minimum of three consecutive years, grades 4, 5, and 6 will be given priority acceptance to Tantasqua Regional School District, provided that all required procedures are followed and that sufficient spaces as voted by the Tantasqua Regional School District Committee are available.
6. The School Committee affirms its position that it shall not discriminate in the admission of any child on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, homelessness, ancestry, athletic performance, physical handicap, special need, academic performance or proficiency in the English language.
7. Students who move out of the district will be allowed the option of remaining enrolled under School Choice.

SOURCE: MASC

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:6; 71:6A; 76:6; 76:12; 76:12B  
BESE Regulations 603 CMR 26:00

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