Baltimore City Public Schools
Middle and High School Choice
Agenda

• Choice process and timeline

• Know your student/School fit

• School options
  • Composite score/entrance criteria
  • Citywide schools/choice lottery
  • Schools with additional requirements
  • Ingenuity Project
  • CTE
  • P-Tech
  • Charter schools

• Questions/discussion
## High school and middle school choice

### High school choice

**All 8th graders** participate in the choice process that determines which high school they will attend. Eighth graders must complete a City Schools choice application. *If your current (6-12) school offers 9th grade, you will automatically be accepted into your school if you list it as your first choice, or if you list it as one of your five choices and are not accepted elsewhere.*

Over the last three years, students have consistently been placed in their first or second choices 70-75% of the time.

### Middle school choice

**5th grade students who attend elementary-only (K-5) schools** have to participate in the choice process to determine which middle school they will attend.

**5th grade students who attend elementary/middle (K-8) schools** have the option of remaining in their current schools, participating in the choice process for a new school placement or attend the K-8 school for which their current school is a “feeder.”
Timeline

October 2018

Begin researching schools and attending open houses and shadow days.
Open houses v. Shadow days

Open house

- A way to see the school and meet staff when school is not in session
- Dates and times found on schools’ websites
- Often include large group meetings
- Usually open to all

Shadow day

- A way for students to experience attending the school
- Dates and times found on schools’ websites
- Usually have to sign up to reserve space
- Not offered at all schools
- Work with your choice liaison to register for shadow days at schools you are interested in.

Do you know who the choice liaison at your school is? If not, find out and make an appointment to meet with him/her to discuss school options and get a jump on registering for shadow days.
November 2018

- Students receive 1st quarter report cards –
  - 1st quarter grades from 5th or 8th grade are the final piece needed to calculate a student’s composite score.
- City Schools begins calculating composite scores
- City Schools Choice Guide available
Middle and High School Choice Guide

- City Schools provides school-based choice liaisons with copies of the choice guide to give to families.
- The choice guide profiles all the public schools in Baltimore City and provides information such as:
  - Location
  - Bus lines
  - Start and end times
  - Uniform requirements
  - Extracurricular activities
  - Academic programming (IB, Advanced Academics, Ingenuity, gifted and advanced learning, CTE, etc.)
Timeline

December 2018

- Choice fair
- Composite scores distributed
- Ingenuity Project applications due
Baltimore City Public Schools Choice Fair

• Where: Baltimore Convention Center- Hall A
• When: December 8, 2018 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

• The Choice Fair is an opportunity to connect with staff from several schools in one location. Best to have a plan!
  • Identify the schools that you are interested in attending
  • Write down specific questions or concerns you have about each school
  • Upon entry at the fair, map where each school you are interested in is located
Composite Scores Distributed

- City Schools calculates composite scores
- Composite scores available to schools through district’s electronic school choice system (SCS)
- Composite scores distributed to families through school-based choice liaisons
  - If you haven’t already, make an appointment with the choice liaison at your school.
January 2019

City Schools choice applications due
School Choice Applications Due January 18, 2019

Applications can be….

- Given to the choice liaison at your school OR
- Mailed or hand-delivered to the Office of Enrollment, Choice and Transfers, 200 East North Avenue, Room 106
Timeline

February 2019

Charter school application deadlines
Charter School Application Deadlines

If your family is interested in attending any charter schools, make sure you know when the application deadlines are.

Most charter schools will have an application deadline in mid-February....but not all! Do your research to find out when each school will hold its lottery.
Timeline

March 2019

City Schools sends first round of school assignment letters (results from City Schools choice application process)
City Schools Placement Letters Mailed Home in March

- Letters will be mailed to the address on file at your current school.
  - Make sure your address is up-to-date with your school’s front office.
- If you receive an offer of admission from a charter school and plan to enroll, submit the Baltimore City Schools Decline Form once you have enrolled.
My child was accepted to a charter school – now what?

1. If you plan to enroll, follow the charter school’s instructions to complete enrollment.
   • Most will have a deadline for you to accept or decline.

2. Complete the City Schools Decline Form and submit it to the choice liaison at your school.
   • You may also submit the form directly to the City Schools Office of Enrollment, Choice and Transfers, but your choice liaison should still be notified of your middle or high school choice selection.
Decline Form deadline and second round City Schools choice applications due
Decline Forms are due in April.

If you are accepted to and decide to enroll in a charter school, you must submit a form declining your City Schools assignment.

Submit this form to decline a City Schools choice application assignment.

You can also use this form to decline your first round City Schools choice application assignment if you are unhappy with it. You can re-apply to schools that are still accepting students for the second round of assignments.
Second round of choice applications

Students who did not like their initial school assignments from the City Schools choice application have the option to re-apply by submitting another.

- Can only apply to schools with space available
  - City Schools will provide a list of schools that have space available
  - Poly, City, Western and Dunbar usually do not have space available for the second round
  - Popular programs (e.g., Information Technology) usually do not have space available for the second round
- Submit a new application to the choice liaison at your school or directly to the City Schools Office of Enrollment, Choice and Transfers

Students who still don’t have a middle or high school placement after the charter lotteries and two City Schools lotteries have been completed will be assigned to schools over the summer.

City Schools Office of Enrollment, Choice and Transfers will mail these assignment letters to the address on file at your current school.
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Composite Scores and Entrance Criteria
Composite Score

Final course grades for 4th or 7th grade

1st quarter course grades from 5th or 8th grade

PARCC percentile

1st quarter attendance from 5th or 8th grade
ADVANCED ACADEMICS

• Middle schools only
• Rigorous courses
• Honors curriculum in language arts, math, social studies and science.
• 10% weight on composite scores (80 x 1.1 = 88)
• Math and science curriculum is less rigorous than Ingenuity program and more rigorous than grade-level program.
Middle schools that offer Advanced Academics (minimum composite score required)

- Cross Country Elementary/Middle School
- Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School
- Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School
- Roland Park Elementary/Middle School
- Waverly Elementary/Middle School
High schools that require a minimum composite score for eligibility

- Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly)
- Baltimore City College (City)
- Carver Vocational-Technical High School (CTE)
- Edmondson-Westside High School (CTE)
- Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School (CTE)
- Paul Laurence Dunbar High School (Dunbar)
- Western High School (Female only)
Minimum composites scores

- Cross Country Elementary/Middle School.............................355
- Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School........................355
- Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School...............................355
- Roland Park Elementary/Middle School.................................355
- Waverly Elementary/Middle School....................................355
- Baltimore Polytechnic Institute...........................................610
- Baltimore City College......................................................610
- Paul Laurence Dunbar High School.....................................610
- Western High School.........................................................610
- Carver Vocational-Technical High School.............................475
- Edmondson-Westside High School......................................475
- Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School..................475
Composite scores – eligibility v. admission

Earning the minimum composite score does NOT guarantee admission to a school. All students who earn at least the minimum composite score are ranked by score and admitted to schools in rank order until all open spots are filled.

In 2018, Poly did not admit any students with a composite score lower than 701.4. City did not admit any students with a composite score lower than 672.6. The minimum accepted score at Roland Park was 382.7
Applicants v. seats for most applied-to high schools for SY17-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>8th grade applicants</th>
<th>Eligible applicants</th>
<th>Number of students placed</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mergenthaler</td>
<td>3091</td>
<td>2493</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore City College</td>
<td>1884</td>
<td>1595</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Polytechnic Inst</td>
<td>1829</td>
<td>1557</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Harbor</td>
<td>1550</td>
<td>1550</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Laurence Dunbar</td>
<td>1418</td>
<td>1123</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver Vo-Tech</td>
<td>1346</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmondson-Westside</td>
<td>1057</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>993</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARD High School Early College</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Different composite scores for different schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Composite Score Components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore City College,</td>
<td>PARCC reading percentile + PARCC math percentile + math grade x 2 + English grade x 2 +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Laurence Dunbar &amp; Western</td>
<td>Overall average x 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Polytechnic Institute</td>
<td>PARCC reading percentile + PARCC math percentile + math grade x 3 + English grade +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver, Edmondson-Westside &amp; Mergenthaler</td>
<td>PARCC reading percentile + PARCC math percentile + math grade + English grade + science grade + Overall average + Attendance rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that earning the minimum qualifying composite score for a school does not guarantee admission. Eligible students are ranked by scored and admitted to schools in rank order until all open spots are filled.
Scenario: grade level v. honors courses

Jacobi is an 8th grade student taking **grade-level classes**. Last year, he earned 85s in all of his core subjects (language arts, math, social studies, science), and this year he earned all 90s on his first quarter report card and did not miss any days of school. He tested in the 65th percentile on both reading and math on the PARCC test.

**Composite scores for Jacobi:**
- City, Dunbar, Poly: 640
- MerVo, Carver, Edmondson: 570

Joshua is an 8th grade student taking **honors classes**. Last year he also took honors classes and earned 85s in all of his core subjects (language arts, math, social sciences, science), and this year he earned all 90s on his first quarter report card. He did not miss any days of school. He also tested in the 65th percentile on both reading and math on the PARCC test.

**Composite scores for Joshua:**
- City, Dunbar, Poly: 691
- MerVo, Carver, Edmondson: 604

**Grades earned in Advanced Academic and Ingenuity courses are weighted in the same way as honors course grades when composite scores are calculated.**
Does my school offer honors classes?

_Not every middle school offers honors classes._ The following schools **DO** offer honors classes (also known as gifted and advanced learning) to middle grades students:

Arlington Elementary/Middle School  
Baltimore Design School  
Baltimore International Academy  
Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women  
Commodore John Rodgers Elementary/Middle School  
Cross Country Elementary/Middle School  
Elmer A. Henderson: A Johns Hopkins Partnership School  
Fallstaff Elementary/Middle School  
Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School  
Furman Templeton Preparatory Academy  
Garrett Heights Elementary/Middle School  
Glenmount Elementary/Middle School  
Hamilton Elementary/Middle School  
Hampden Elementary/Middle School  
Hampstead Hill Academy  
Hazelwood Elementary/Middle School  
Holabird Elementary/Middle School  
John Ruhrrah Elementary/Middle School  
Lakeland Elementary/Middle School  
Leith Walk Elementary/Middle School  
Maree G. Farring Elementary/Middle School  
Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School  
The Mount Washington School  
North Bend Elementary/Middle School  
Patterson Park Public Charter School  
Pimlico Elementary/Middle School  
Roland Park Elementary/Middle School  
The Stadium School  
Thomas Jefferson Elementary/Middle School  
Thomas Johnson Elementary/Middle School  
Vanguard Collegiate Middle School  
Waverly Elementary/Middle School  
Windsor Hills Elementary/Middle School  
Woodhome Elementary/Middle School
• **Rank five participating schools on City Schools choice application**
  
  • Make sure the school you most want to attend is in the #1 spot, your second choice school is in the #2 spot, etc.

• **No minimum composite score necessary for schools without entrance criteria**

• **Admissions determined by lottery if number of applicants is greater than number of seats available**

• **Applications can be submitted to the choice liaison at your current school or to the City Schools Office of Enrollment, Choice and Transfers (200 East North Ave., Room 106)**

• **Applications due January 18, 2019.**
For the past five years, between 70% and 76% of 8th graders have been matched to their first or second choice school.
Schools with Additional Requirements
Baltimore City Public Schools that have special programs and admissions requirements, such as:

- Interview
- Audition
- Portfolio
Applying to schools with additional admissions requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore School for the Arts</td>
<td>Audition and interview required. Students can audition in film, visual arts, instrumental music, dance, theater, and stage design and production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Open House held September 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Written applications due November 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Auditions held Jan. 25-30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bard</td>
<td>List on City Schools choice application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Attend an admissions open house.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Prospective students complete a writing assessment at the open house.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Register for an interview at a later date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Academy Foundation</td>
<td>List on City Schools choice application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serves grades 6-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interview required for HS applicants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BDS</td>
<td>Grade 9-12 applicants must submit BDS application AND portfolio by January 25, 2019 AND attend portfolio review day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ingenuity Project
Ingenuity Project

Offers families a free, highly accelerated and challenging mathematics and science curriculum.
Ingenuity Project Locations

**Middle School**
- Hamilton Elementary/Middle School
- Mount Royal Elementary/Middle School
- Roland Park Elementary/Middle School

**High School**
- Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
How to apply

• Online applications available November 1, 2018.
• Apply online, by mail or hand deliver application. The application deadline for 2018 has yet to be posted. Last year, it was December 20.
  • *High school applicants must also list Poly in the #1 spot on their City Schools choice application.*
  • High school students accepted into Ingenuity must also be accepted to Poly.
• Take the Ingenuity Ability Test on January 12, 2019.
• Wait to find out if your child has been accepted and offered a placement. Notifications will be mailed to the address on file at your current school around the end of February.
• Accept your child’s Ingenuity placement. Ingenuity ranks applicants based on Ingenuity test scores and places students at schools based on rank.
Ingenuity Composite Score

Ingenuity calculates a composite score for each applicant that is different from the City Schools composite score. Ingenuity’s composite score includes:

- PARCC scores;
- Course grades from 4th or 7th grade and the first quarter of 5th or 8th grade; and
- Results on the Ingenuity-administered exams – CogAt for middle school applicants and CogAt and Algebra I for high school applicants.

Students are offered seats according to rank. There is no minimum Ingenuity composite score that determines placement from year to year. However, students admitted last year typically scored Level 4 or 5 on the PARCC assessments and maintained A and B averages in school.
Go to the Ingenuity website

View our 2020 Strategic Plan to see where Ingenuity is headed

Learn More
Go to ‘Programs’ and click on ‘How to Apply’
Once the 2018 application is open, use the ‘Middle School Application’ or ‘High School Application’ buttons to access the appropriate application.
5th grade applicants will need to rank their school choices for the middle school Ingenuity program.
Career and Technology Education
Career & Technology Education (CTE)

- Participate in work-based learning opportunities
- Job shadowing, mentoring with industry professionals, or internships

After successful completion, students can graduate with industry certification and/or college credit

Arts, Media and Communication
Business, Management and Finance
Career Research and Development
Construction and Development
Consumer Services, Hospitality and Tourism
Environmental, Agriculture and Natural Resources
Gateway to Technology (middle school)
Health and Biosciences
Human Resource Services
Information Technology
Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology
Transportation Technologies
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High schools with CTE programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academy for College and Career Exploration (ACCE)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Achievement Academy at Harbor City High School</strong>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Augusta Fells Savage Institute of Visual Arts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baltimore Design School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baltimore Polytechnic Institute</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benjamin Franklin High School at Masonville Cove</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bluford Drew Jemison STEM Academy West</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carver Vocational-Technical High School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Claremont School</strong>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coppin Academy</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Digital Harbor High School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Edmondson-Westside High School</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Excel Academy at Francis M. Wood High School</strong>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Forest Park High School</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Frederick Douglass High School</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not all CTE pathways are available at every school.*

*Students are placed at these schools by referral, not through the school choice process.*
Middle schools with CTE programs

Students at the following schools have the opportunity to participate in a challenging, engaging project-based pre-engineering program called Gateway to Technology. The program is divided into units that focus on design, modeling, and robotics.

Barclay Elementary/Middle School
Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School
Cross/Country Elementary/Middle School
Curtis Bay Elementary/Middle School
Glenmount Elementary/Middle School
Hazelwood Elementary/Middle School
Lakeland Elementary/Middle School
Roland Park Elementary/Middle School
Why P-TECH?

Addresses post-secondary degree completion

Prepares graduates with the workplace skills required by employers

Aids transitions between high school, college and the professional world

Designed to motivate and enable more students to earn a college degree

Designed for students who are economically disadvantaged and first in their families to attend college

Students commit to a six-year program earning their high school diploma and a tuition-free Associates degree.
P-TECH

Three health career pathways at Dunbar:
  • Nursing
  • Respiratory care
  • Physical therapy

Two information technology career pathways at Carver:
  • Cyber-security
  • Computer information systems

One transportation and logistics pathway at New Era:
  • Seagoing

Fund for Educational Excellence - 2018
Sample P-TECH application
Charter Schools
Charter Schools

Charter schools are City Schools that are independently operated.

They may have unique...

• Approach to instruction
• Instructional themes
• Populations served
APPLYING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS

• Find more information on each school’s website.
• Each school has its own application (online or hard copy).
• Research admissions processes and procedures.
• Most applications will be due in February.
• Most DO NOT go on the City Schools choice form.
  • Three charter schools DO use the City Schools choice application: Banneker Blake Academy of Arts and Sciences, ConneXions, Independence Local School I
• May hold a lottery from applicants to determine admission.
Baltimore City Public Schools

City Schools says
thank you to our principals!

October is National Principals Month

Quick Links
- Clover Portal
- Campus Portal
- Subscribe to emails and newsletters
- Breakfast and lunch menus
- Board policies and meetings (BoardDocs)
- Website accessibility

In Our Schools Every Day

Families Come Together for Citywide Back to School Night

Latest News
Interested in learning more and participating in issues around school funding and budgets? Check out these upcoming opportunities.

Tweets by @BaltCitySchools

Baltimore Schools
@BaltCitySchools
It’s National Principals Month! Thank you to all of our great school leaders for the amazing job you do every day.
#ThankAPrincipal
Click on ‘Types of Schools’
Click on ‘Charter Schools’
Click on a link to go to a charter school’s website.
Charter schools with open house dates or shadow days posted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Open houses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Street Academy</td>
<td>Grades 6-12</td>
<td>October 10, December 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Neighbors Charter School</td>
<td>Grades – K - 8</td>
<td>December 18 &amp; 19, January 16 &amp; 17, January 28, February 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women</td>
<td>Grades 6-12</td>
<td>December 13, December 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afya Public Charter School</td>
<td>Grades 6-8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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• Questions/discussion
For questions about the choice process, please contact the Office of Enrollment, Choice and Transfers at City Schools.

Email corries@ffee.org at the Fund for Educational Excellence with any feedback on this workshop.