

2011 – 2012 Choice School/Program Application Process and Calendar

November 2010 – February 2011	Information Sessions and Materials Provided at Schools
February 4, 2011	All Program/School Choice Applications are Due to Respective Schools by 4:00 p.m.
February 16-18, 2011	Window for Lotteries Conducted at Individual Schools (if applicable)
March 4, 2011	Schools Mail Notification Letters to Students Selected for Choice Schools/Programs
March 14 – 17, 2011	Schools Hold Registration and Commitment Meetings (Gardendale to conduct informational meetings prior to intersession)
March 25, 2011	Deadline for Commitment Letter to <u>ONE</u> Choice Program/School by 4:00 p.m.

Choice Application Guidelines:

- Choice applications are available at choice schools/programs. Please note that students must meet stipulated academic criteria at some choice schools/programs. An out-of-area form **does not** need to be completed.
- Students may apply to multiple choice schools/programs. All applications are due to the respective schools/programs by 4:00 p.m. on February 4, 2011. Please understand that there are no exceptions to this deadline. Faxed applications will not be accepted.
- Students and parents are encouraged to attend scheduled information sessions at the choice schools/programs to obtain specific information about the array of choice opportunities available. School websites contain information regarding the dates of scheduled information sessions, registration meetings, and lotteries.
- Parents may only sign a commitment letter for **ONE** choice school/program. The commitment letter is due to the selected school/program by 4:00 p.m. on March 25, 2011.
- Students who submit a commitment letter to more than **ONE** choice school/program will be disqualified to attend any choice school/program for the school year.
- Students must return to their home school if a decision is made not to attend the choice school/program (once a commitment letter is submitted). The only exception is if a principal invites a student to attend another choice school/program as openings become available.
- Students will be pulled from waiting lists established from the lottery as openings become available at choice schools/programs as outlined in District procedures.
- Parents may submit a written letter of appeal to the Office of School Choice regarding the determination of ineligibility or wait pool status three times a year – May 13th, July 14th, and December 2nd.

The approval of a student to attend a school other than his/her zoned school of attendance for the purpose of attending a choice school or program is valid for as long as the student participates in the choice school/program. A student must return to his/her zoned school of attendance at the end of the semester if he/she no longer participates in the choice school or program.