

ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

1. **Kindergarten Registration**

Students are placed in the school of the parents' first choice, according to the priorities listed below. In the event there is an over-enrollment in any school after children with priority have been placed, a lottery will be held which will provide a fair way for all other children to be placed in the school of their highest choice.

2. **Students Moving into Acton or Boxborough**

Every effort will be made to place students (K-6) who move to Acton or Boxborough in the schools requested by their parents, with preference given, if necessary, according to the priorities below. However, in certain circumstances it may not be possible to place these students in the school of their first choice.

3. **Transfers between Elementary Schools**

A parent or guardian who wishes to transfer his or her child from one elementary school to another shall write a letter to the Superintendent or designee stating the request. Any transfer requests that are made during the school year up to July 1, will be considered in July for transfer in September. Students will rarely be transferred during the school year to minimize disruptions.

4. **Priorities to be Used in Assigning Students**

- a. Providing for children with special needs and/or accessibility accommodations - These students will be placed appropriately upon the recommendation of Pupil Services.
- b. Keeping families together - It is important to build a strong core of families who can devote their energies to their school's activities. Volunteerism, active parent/teacher organizations, and parent involvement in advisory groups and the like are valuable school resources. So is a long-term family connection to their school community. Therefore, if the newly enrolling student has a sibling in the Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools and that sibling attended an Acton or Boxborough elementary school, the newly enrolling student will be given school selection preference at that same school.
 - * A sibling is defined as: "a relative (by birth, adoption or guardianship) who is living in the same home."
- c. Encouraging walking to school - Children should walk to school wherever possible for economic and energy-saving reasons. Therefore, students who live within a one mile safe walk will be given preference when placing students. A safe walk will include sidewalks on major roads and crossing guards when students need to cross a major road.
- d. Children who are retained in kindergarten receive priority for all day kindergarten. If they request to transfer to another school, they receive priority to attend that school.
- e. Children who live in Boxborough are guaranteed a spot at the Blanchard School if they choose, and children who live in Acton are guaranteed a spot at an Acton school if they choose. Exceptions to this may be made for special education reasons or for other reasons as determined by the Superintendent.

1/22/15