

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS

EXHIBIT	CMS/NEPN Code: JCA-E2
STUDENT ASSIGNMENT PLAN PRIORITIES— MAGNET PROGRAMS	

As described in Policy JCA, each year CMS will conduct a Lottery through which a student may apply for a seat in three schools and/or magnet programs. Lottery applicants will be placed in schools based upon a random number assigned to each applicant and the Guarantees and Priority Rankings in effect for that school year. Only certain students must complete a Lottery application in order to receive a school assignment. Those students are:

- Students who will be moving to middle school (rising 6th graders) or high school (rising 9th graders); or
- Students who attend their home schools and live in home school attendance areas that are changing effective with the subsequent school year; or
- Any student who will be new to CMS: entering kindergartners (including students who participated in Bright Beginnings), or students entering from non-public schools or from other school districts.
- Rising Kindergarten students or newly enrolling students whose home schools are Title I Choice Schools;¹ or
- Current 5th graders whose middle school home schools or magnet continuation schools are Title I Choice Schools; or
- Students in grades K – 4 and grades 6 and 7 who are currently assigned to a Title I Choice School.

Current students who do not fit one of the above categories but who wish to change school assignments must also complete a Lottery application.

I. CONTINUATION AND SIBLING GUARANTEES

The following guarantees apply to school assignments for the 2005-2006 school year:

1. Students currently enrolled in the program² will be able to remain through the last grade of that school level and to feed to the next school level for that program.
2. Siblings³ of students who enroll in the school or program will be admitted.

¹ Title I Choice Schools are certain schools that receive Title I funds and have been identified for school improvement or corrective action or restructuring pursuant to the federal "No Child Left Behind" Act.

² For schools that are partial magnets, any student admitted to the school on the basis of residence may choose to participate in the magnet program if the student meets the criteria (if any) for that program.

³ Siblings are students with same residence and one parent or guardian in common with another CMS student who is either admitted to or enrolled in the school or magnet program to which the sibling is applying.

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Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §6301 et seq.

Previous CMS Exhibit: none

Cross Reference: FBC, IHBJ, JCA, JCA-R, JCA-E1

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II. PRIORITIES

The following Priority Rankings apply to school assignments for the 2005-2006 school year (unless otherwise stated). Students who do not qualify for a Guarantee will be admitted to magnet schools and programs based on random number lottery and the availability of seats after all students with Guarantees have been assigned. The number of seats assigned based on a particular priority may not exceed 25% of the available seats in a school. The lottery process will be conducted in the following order:

1. Students who live within 1/3 mile of a whole school magnet:
will have a priority for up to 25% of the available seats in that school;
2. High mobility students:⁴
will have a priority to attend a magnet school if they live in the high school feeder area served by the magnet;
3. Students who:
 - perform below grade level in reading⁵, and
 - attend a home school⁶ at which the reading performance⁷ is 15 percentage points below the district's reading performance average:
will have a priority to attend a school
 - at which the reading performance is above the district's reading performance average.
4. Students who:
 - are at or above grade level in reading, and
 - attend a home school that is 15 percentage points below the district's reading performance average:

⁴ A high mobility student is a student who has changed residence three or more times in the last twelve months, is a foster child, or lives in a group home.

⁵ Grade level reading performance for individual students is defined in Regulation JCA-R, Section I.

⁶ For purposes of this Priority, "home school" means the school that a student attends at the time of the Lottery, if the school is also his/her assigned home school. However, for future-enrolled, current Pre-K and terminal grade (5th and 8th) students, "home school" means the school designated as the student's home school assignment for the school year for which Lottery assignments are being made.

⁷ For elementary and middle schools, district and school reading performance average refers to the percentage of students at or above Level III on the reading End of Grade Test. For high schools, district and school reading performance average refers to the percentage of students who score at or above Level III on the English I End of Course Test. Performance measurements are based on tests taken at the end of the school year preceding the Lottery and are reported by school level.

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Page 2 of 4

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will have a priority to attend any school in the district.

5. Students who attend any school:

will have a priority to attend a school according to the following rules:

- Students who qualify for FRL lunch:
 - will have a priority to attend elementary schools and middle schools that are below 40% FRL and high schools that are below 30% FRL.
- Students who do not qualify for FRL:
 - will have a priority to attend schools that are above the school level FRL average.

6. Students who:

- attend a home school that has been closed to student reassignments or transfers because of overcrowding:⁸

will have a priority to attend a school

- that is less than 95% capacity.⁹

7. Students who:

- are rising Kindergarten students or newly enrolling students whose schools are Title I Choice Schools, or
- are current 5th graders whose middle school home schools or magnet continuation schools are Title I Choice Schools, or
- are in grades K – 4 and grades 6 and 7 and are currently assigned to a Title I Choice School:

will have a priority to attend a school

- that is not a Title I Choice School.¹⁰

Students who qualify for Free or Reduced Price lunch and are below grade level in reading will receive the first available seats under this priority.

8. All students who:

- live in the magnet feeder area:

will be admitted in order of lottery number.

⁸ The Superintendent is authorized by Policy JFAC, Section II, B, to close certain schools to student reassignments or transfers because of overcrowding.

⁹ Utilization shall be measured as of the 20th day of the current school year using the new capacity calculation formula.

¹⁰ These students will not be placed in a Title I Choice School unless they indicate on their application that they would accept an assignment to a Title I Choice School.

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Page 3 of 4

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9. All students who
- live outside the magnet feeder area:
will be admitted in order of lottery number.

For all Priorities and Guarantees, the student must meet the criteria, if any, for a particular magnet program.

PREVIOUS 2004 VERSION

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