

SCHOOL CHOICE PROCEDURES

The Salinas Union High School District (SUHSD) has implemented a "School Choice" (open enrollment) policy which allows parents and students to apply for enrollment at any comprehensive school within the District. While there are certain limitations that apply, parents may now consider and request a comprehensive school outside their home attendance area. These limitations are addressed in more detail in the next section.

Students must attend school in their home attendance area unless they apply through School Choice and are approved for enrollment at the requested school. Students are entitled to attend school in their home attendance area **without** applying for enrollment. Once a School Choice application is approved, the requested school becomes the permanent school of attendance until the student is promoted from the eighth grade, graduates from the twelfth grade, or another School Choice application is submitted and approved.

Each SUHSD school teaches the "core curriculum" of the District, but each one also has its own unique programs and emphasis. Parents may wish to call the schools and/or visit and meet with the principals or their designees if they have any questions.

The procedures described in the following sections will be followed in accepting applications and approving students for enrollment at their school of choice. Please read these sections completely and carefully. Applications must be completed and returned to the school you want your student to attend, by **4:00 p.m. on February 29, 2012**. The School Choice application window occurs during the month of February of each school year.

APPLICATION

1. Selection will be determined based on adherence to the following limitations:
 - The application has met the appropriate deadline.
 - A student's attendance at a school other than the designated school in their home attendance area may not be in excess of the established capacity of the school.
 - No pupil who currently resides in a school's attendance area may be displaced by pupils transferring from outside the attendance area.
 - The District may employ existing entrance criteria for specialized schools or programs (e.g., special education, opportunity class, independent study, etc.) so long as the criteria are uniformly applied to all applicants.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Students attending a school of choice in the eighth grade who wish to attend a high school outside of their home attendance area must go through the application process again.
2. Parents are responsible for the transportation of their student to and from the school of choice, if they accept a School Choice transfer. Parents should ensure that long-term arrangements for transportation to the school of choice are made prior to acceptance of the transfer.
3. Once enrolled in a school of choice, a student shall not have to reapply for readmission to that school. However, if the student desires to return to the school in their home attendance area or to another SUHSD school, *even as a result of a change in residence*, the student will be required to submit another School Choice application during the open enrollment period. Please note that students attending school under a School Choice transfer may be subject to displacement due to excessive enrollment in subsequent years.
4. Parents/Guardians of high school students should contact the school in their home attendance area regarding C.I.F. athletic eligibility before accepting a transfer.
5. Any student wishing to attend the same school with their sibling must complete a school choice application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applications must be completed and received in the administrative office at the school you would like your student to attend, by **4:00 p.m. on February 29, 2012.**

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:	NOTIFICATIONS MAILED
by February 29	between March 16 and April 13

All decisions and selections for School Choice will be conducted in accordance with Board Policy and Administrative Regulations. Any complaints or questions regarding the selection process shall be submitted in writing to the Director of the Pupil Personnel Services Office.