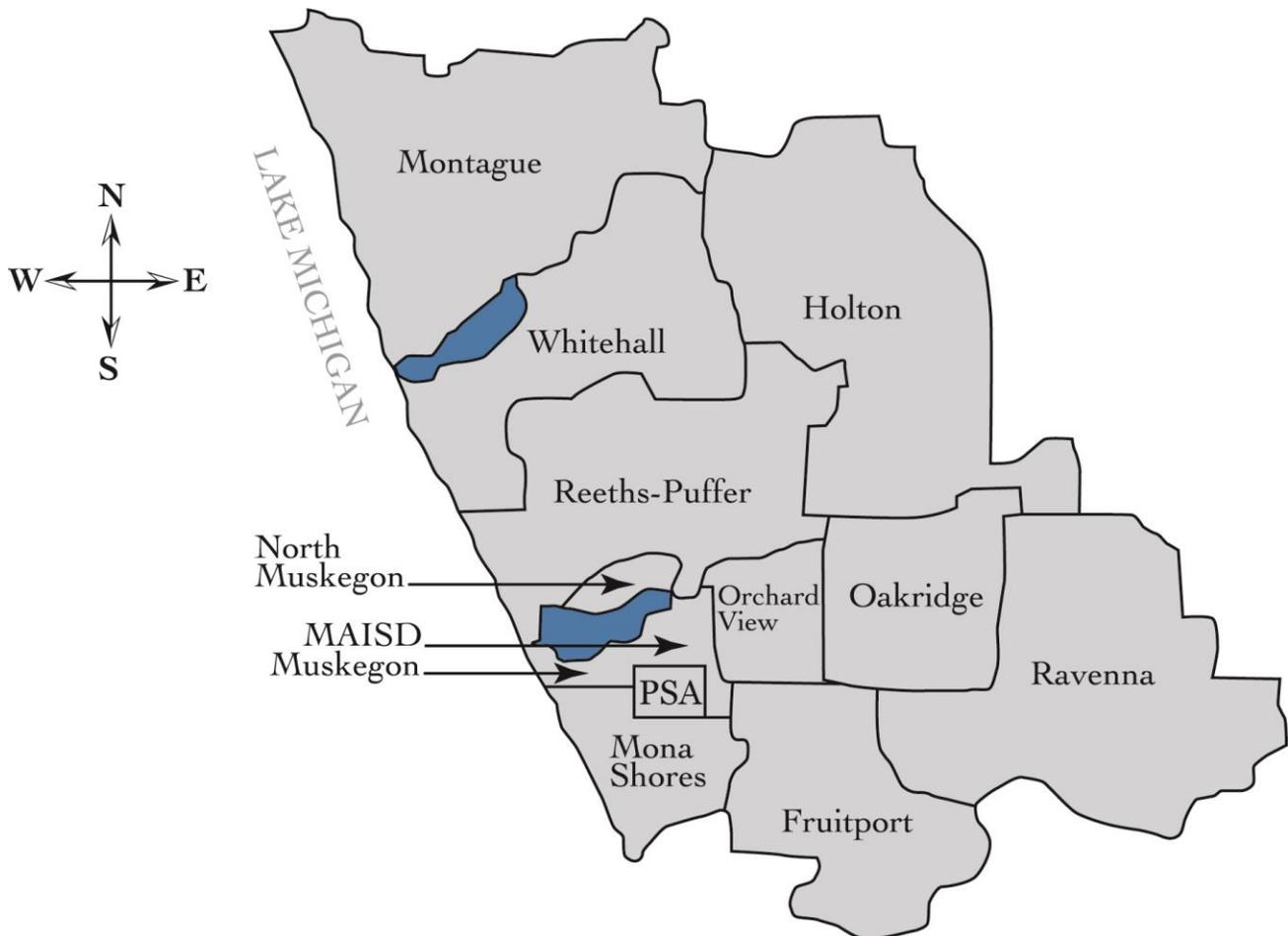


MAISD



Muskegon Area
Intermediate School District

Collaborative Schools of Choice Program



A plan that offers parents and students a choice to attend other public schools in the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District outside of their district of residence.



**The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District
Collaborative Schools of Choice Program
Provides Applicants Opportunities for
Enrollment Outside Their Resident District**

The Schools of Choice application process operates according to established guidelines which are:

- Each district within the Muskegon Area ISD may accept students based on district-identified capacity by grade level, class section, and building.
- If the demand for student placement exceeds space available in a grade level, class section, building, or program, a random draw will be used to determine which choice students will be allowed into the district.
- Districts may refuse to accept a choice student who has been suspended by another district in the previous two years, who has ever been expelled by another district, or who has ever been convicted of a felony.
- Students must enroll in the receiving school district at the beginning of the school year and are expected to make a one-year commitment to remain in the district.

Graduation/Promotion Requirements and Curriculum/Class Scheduling:

- Parents, guardians, and students participating in the Choice Program for the first time are required to meet with a building administrator or counselor prior to the start of school.
- Choice students must meet graduation, promotion, curriculum, and credit requirements of the choice district in which they enroll.

Transportation:

- Parents and guardians are responsible for transporting choice students to and from their choice school.

Athletics Policy:

- Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) rules and regulations apply to all students participating in interscholastic athletics.

Application Procedures for Muskegon Area Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program:

- Applications for Schools of Choice may be requested at the resident or choice district's central office between May 1 and May 30. An online form is also available.
- Return the completed form to the choice district by May 30.
- There is no guarantee that space will be available in the building selected.
- Parents will be notified of acceptance by the choice district by July 1.
- Parents will verify attendance in the choice district by the 2nd Monday in July.

Definitions

District: The district where a non-resident student attends through the schools of choice program.

Resident District: The district where the student lives.

If you have questions about the Muskegon Area ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program, please call your resident or choice district.

The School Boards of the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District comply with all federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the United States Department of Education and the Michigan State Department of Education.



630 Harvey Street • Muskegon, MI 49442
Phone: (231) 777-2637
Superintendent: Randy Lindquist

COLLABORATIVE SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PROGRAM

Fruitport Community Schools

3255 E. Pontaluna Road
Fruitport, MI 49415
Phone: (231) 865-4100
Superintendent: Mr. Jason Kennedy

Oakridge Public Schools

275 South Wolf Lake Road
Muskegon, MI 49442
Phone: (231) 788-7100
Superintendent: Mr. Tom Livezey

Holton Public Schools

6500 Fourth Street
Holton, MI 49425
Phone: (231) 821-1700
Superintendent: Dr. Adam Bayne

Orchard View Schools

35 South Sheridan Drive
Muskegon, MI 49442
Phone: (231) 760-1300
Superintendent: Mr. Jim Nielsen

Mona Shores Public Schools

121 Randall Road
Norton Shores, MI 49441
Phone: (231) 780-4751
Superintendent: Mr. Bill O'Brien

Ravenna Public Schools

12322 Stafford Street
Ravenna, MI 49451
Phone: (231) 853-2231
Superintendent: Mr. Greg Helmer

Montague Area Public Schools

4882 Stanton Boulevard
Montague, MI 49437
Phone: (231) 893-1515
Superintendent: Mr. Jeff Johnson

Reeths-Puffer Schools

991 West Giles Road
Muskegon, MI 49445
Phone: (231) 744-4736
Superintendent: Mr. Steve Edwards

Muskegon Public Schools

1458 5th Street
Muskegon, MI 49441
Phone: (231) 720-2004
Superintendent: Mr. Matt Cortez

Whitehall District Schools

541 East Slocum Street
Whitehall, MI 49461
Phone: (231) 893-1003
Superintendent: Mr. C.J. VanWieren

North Muskegon Public Schools

1600 Mills Avenue
North Muskegon, MI 49445
Phone: (231) 719-4100
Superintendent: Dr. Curt Babcock

The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District

COLLABORATIVE SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PLAN

A plan that offers parents and students a choice to attend other public schools in the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District outside of their district of residence

The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District

**COLLABORATIVE
SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PLAN**

Effective Beginning with the 1998-99 School Year

INTRODUCTION

The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Plan was developed through a process which included careful study, thoughtful discussion, and continual review. This plan supports the goal of providing quality educational options for students within the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District.

An important feature of the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Plan is its cooperative development among the constituent public school districts within the MAISD. This spirit of cooperation propelled the idea of choice into a workable plan. The plan was initiated as a one-year pilot during the 1997-98 school year and went into effect with the 1998-99 school year, to be renewed annually.

Any changes to this plan are to be made no later than the March MAPSSA Meeting (to be in place the next academic year).

The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District

COLLABORATIVE SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PLAN

Acceptance of Students

- Each district within the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District may accept students based on district-identified capacity by grade level, class section, and building.
- If the demand for student placement exceeds space available in a grade level, class section, building, or program, a random draw will be used to determine which choice students will be allowed into the district.
- Districts may refuse to accept a choice student who has been suspended by another district in the previous two years, who has ever been expelled by another district, or who has ever been convicted of a felony. A district may not refuse to enroll or refuse to continue to enroll a student for any of these reasons if the District counted the pupil in membership on either the pupil membership count day or the supplemental count day.
- It is agreed that districts will not discriminate when accepting students under this choice plan. [See Appendix A]
- Choice applications will be taken from May 1 to May 30. Notification of acceptance or non-acceptance will be sent to the parent by July 1. Students must enroll in the receiving school district at the beginning of the school year, and are expected to make a one-year commitment to remain in the district.

Decision Process

- If, based upon new enrollment figures, a district still has openings after May 30, the district may fill the openings from applications received by the May deadline. Students within this group of applicants may be accepted as choice students until the end of the first week of the school year.
- A district shall give preference over all other choice students to nonresident school-aged students who live in the same household as a student already enrolled as a choice student.
- A random drawing will be held if demand for placement exceeds availability.
- After the end of the first week of the school year, local district policy prevails regarding student transfers.

Graduation Requirements, Promotion, Curriculum, Credits

- Choice students must meet graduation, promotion, curriculum, and credit requirements of the receiving district.

Attendance

- Once accepted for enrollment, a choice student may remain enrolled in the choice district until the student either disenrolls or graduates. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits a district from suspending or expelling a choice student for a violation of the applicable student code of conduct.
- Districts will only offer choice openings during the spring application period for the start of each school year.

Co-Curricular Activities

- The Schools of Choice Plan is intended to provide students options for academic purposes. Students who wish to participate in interscholastic athletics must follow the rules and regulations of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA).
- Choice students may participate in co-curricular activities in the receiving district under the same conditions as all other students.

Special Education

- The receiving district is responsible for special education costs and services. There is an exception: special education costs which exceed the foundation allowance will be the responsibility of the district of residence for students who are placed in a multi-district program or center program only during their first year in the choice district.

Tuition and Foundation Allowance

- No tuition will be charged to choice students.

Transportation

- Transportation outside the receiving district will not be provided (except in the case of a special education student whose IEP determines that special transportation is required). Transportation within the receiving district may be provided if there is bus capacity, and according to district guidelines.

Recruitment

- There will be no direct solicitation to recruit nonresident students through Schools of Choice in Muskegon County. [See Appendix C]

Foreign Exchange Students

- If a foreign exchange student resides in the home of a current choice student, the district shall give enrollment preference to the foreign exchange student over all other nonresident students.

Appendix A

A nonresident applicant residing within the same intermediate district shall not be granted or refused enrollment based on intellectual, academic, artistic, or other ability, talent, or accomplishment, or lack thereof, or based on a mental or physical disability, except that a district may refuse to admit a nonresident applicant if the applicant does not meet the same criteria, other than residence, that an applicant who is a resident of the district must meet to be accepted for enrollment in a grade or a specialized, magnet, or intra-district choice school or program to which the applicant applies.

A nonresident applicant residing within the same intermediate district shall not be granted or refused enrollment based upon disability, religion, race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or transgender identify), height, weight, or athletic ability, or, generally, in violation of any state or federal law prohibiting discrimination.

Source: Schools of Choice Legislation, Section 105

Appendix B

Waiver For Under Twenty (20) Year Old Pupils Attending Adult Education Programs

School districts have agreed to release the membership for any pupil who is at least 18 and under 20 years of age as of the 1st Friday after Labor Day of the school year to any adult education program within the County of Muskegon for which the pupil is qualified and to which he/she applies for enrollment.

Enrollment procedures and requirements into adult education programs for pupils less than 18 years of age as of the 1st Friday after Labor Day of the school year shall follow normal, approved choice procedures and/or district policies.

Appendix C

Recruitment

No direct solicitation to recruit nonresident students includes no door-to-door campaigns in a school district (other than your own); no letters/newsletters to nonresident parents; no billboards or mass media targeted to nonresidents which include the word "choice," "select," or "make."

The Muskegon Area Intermediate School District

**COLLABORATIVE
SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PLAN**

For Internal Use

TIMELINE

Any changes to this plan are to be made no later than the February MAPSSA Meeting (to be in place the next academic year).

**1st Monday
in February**

Deadline for local districts to notify the MAISD of grade-level openings for the following school year.

**2nd Monday
in March**

Application materials available from local school district office or MAISD.

May 1

Application deadline for choice students.

May 30

Notification of acceptance or non-acceptance will be sent to parent.

**July 1
(or as soon as
possible for identified
vacancies)**

If, based upon new enrollment figures, a district still has openings, the district may fill the openings with students who applied.

May 30 to the end of the first week of the school year
(MCL 388.1705)

Parents verify attendance in Choice District

By 2nd Monday in **July**
(or as soon as
possible for identified
vacancies)

Local district policy prevails.

After **the end of the first week of
the school year**