




Morris Hills Regional District

Out-of-District School Choice Program


Eligibility for Out-of-District School Choice

- If you live in NJ but outside of Denville, Rockaway Borough, Rockaway Township, or Wharton, you are eligible to apply for School Choice for grades 9-12 if:
 - currently enrolled in your local public school, a public charter school, or attend MacKinnon MS as a Choice student (Tier 1)
 - currently enrolled in a private/parochial or choice school or homeschooled (Tier 2)
 - all paperwork is filed by November 30th

All eligible Tier 1 students will be offered seats before eligible Tier 2 students. 34 seats are available.



Decisions for Magnet and IB Programs

- Qualified school choice candidates for Magnet and/or IB will be considered after all qualified in-district candidates as follows:
 - Preference will be given to qualified siblings of current choice students, MacKinnon choice students, and current students who have moved out of district
 - Qualified Tier 1 students will be considered before qualified Tier 2 students
 - After seats are filled, all other qualified students will be placed on a ranked waitlist.
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School Choice Decisions for General HS


- What happens if more students apply than there are seats available?
 - Preference is given to the following groups:
 - Choice applicants with siblings currently enrolled in district as choice students
 - Choice applicants who are currently MacKinnon MS Choice students
 - Choice applicants who are current MHRD students but have moved out of district
- All other applicants will be selected through a random lottery process.
 - The district will generate a ranked waitlist based on the lottery
 - General HS seats are only available at Morris Knolls HS
 - We anticipate that fewer than 10 seats will be allocated to the General HS Program




Out of District Transportation

- For out-of-district students who live within 20 miles of MHRD, resident district must provide either transportation or aid-in-lieu of transportation. It is your resident district that decides what it will offer-- there is no guarantee that transportation will be provided.
- For out-of-district students who live over 20 miles of MHRD, transportation is solely the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
- For a fee, MHRD allows choice students to ride existing routes pending space availability. Parents must drop off and pick up at the bus stop.


High School Placement

- All admitted IB students will attend Morris Knolls where the program is housed.
 - All admitted Magnet students will attend either Morris Hills or Morris Knolls, wherever a seat is available. There is no opportunity to choose one school or the other, or to be put on a waitlist for a specific school.
 - All admitted General HS students will attend Morris Knolls. There are no General HS seats available at Morris Hills.
 - Siblings of current choice students may be offered a seat at the sibling's current school if space is available.
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Leaving the Choice Program

- Students may opt to return to their resident district at any time
 - If a student withdraws from Morris Hills or Morris Knolls, they must reapply through the Choice program to re-enter the district. There is no special consideration given in this case.
 - If a student wishes to withdraw from either the Magnet Program or IB Program, and there is no General High School seat available, the student must return to their resident district. The student's Magnet or IB Choice seat will be offered to the next student on the Magnet or IB waitlist.
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Application Process

- ❖ Intent to Participate (Tier 1 out-of-district only) due 11/30 to resident district
 - ❖ Apply online by November 30th at www.mhrd.org
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- ❖ Submit all supplemental materials electronically by November 30th
 - ❖ Admissions Test in Math (Magnet only) or ELA (IB only)- November 19th or December 3rd (select test date/time when applying online)
 - ❖ Lottery for General HS: December 14th
 - ❖ Decisions emailed out by December 21st
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Contact Information

- Dr. Nisha Zoeller, Assistant Superintendent, nzoeller@mhrd.org
- Dr. Kevin Doyle, Magnet Program Coordinator, kdoyle@mhrd.org
- Mr. Scott Gambale, IB Program Coordinator, sgambale@mhrd.org

All application materials are available online at www.mhrd.org

