



# Morris Hills Regional District

Math and Science Magnet Program  
International Baccalaureate Program  
Inter-District School Choice Program

Please sign in:



# Morris Hills Regional District



- Regional High School District with two high schools:
  - ◆ Morris Hills High School (1333)
  - ◆ Morris Knolls High School (1654)
- Also on campus:
  - ◆ Evening Adult HS at Morris Knolls
  - ◆ The Academy for Math, Science, and Engineering at Morris Hills\*
  - ◆ The Academy for Performing Arts at Morris Knolls\*

\*in partnership with Morris County Vocational Technical School District- these programs have a separate admissions process through MCVSD.

# Options & Opportunities at MHRD

## General Program Highlights

- ❖ Over 200 courses in academic & elective areas
- ❖ 26 honors and 27 AP Courses
- ❖ Gifted and Talented/Independent Study Programs
- ❖ Aviation/Aerospace Program
- ❖ Dual Enrollment with CCM, FDU, and NJIT
- ❖ 27 sports & a variety of clubs and activities

## Specialty Programs


- ❖ Math and Science Magnet Program at Morris Hills and at Morris Knolls
- ❖ International Baccalaureate Program at Morris Knolls

For all programs, students participate in academics/activities/athletics at host school.

# Should I Apply to a Specialty Program?

- ★ Interest in the subject matter or approach to learning
- ★ Willingness to work hard and be open to new ideas
- ★ Willingness to accept critique in order to improve
- ★ Willingness to consider ideas from multiple perspectives

There are many routes to a successful high school and college career: although our specialty programs may help you earn college credit and prepare for your future major, you should choose a high school path that works for you.



# Specialty Program Prerequisites


- Students apply in the Fall of Grade 8 (can only apply to one program at MHRD); these are honors course sequences.
- Magnet students must be enrolled in Algebra I in Grade 8 (or have completed Algebra I in a prior school year) *and* be eligible to take Biology Honors as a 9th grader.
- IB students are recommended to be enrolled in Algebra I & a World Language in Grade 8, but it is not required.
- IB students must be eligible to take all honors coursework no later than Grade 10
- Both programs require strong student work ethic and motivation!

# Which High School Will I Attend?

- All admitted IB Applicants will attend Morris Knolls HS.
- All admitted in-district Magnet candidates will attend the high school designated by their residence.
- Admitted out-of-district Magnet or Aviation candidates will attend Morris Hills or Morris Knolls depending on space availability.
- All admitted General HS students will attend Morris Knolls.

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**EXCEPTION:** Any admitted Magnet, Aviation, or GHS students with a sibling currently enrolled in either high school may have the opportunity to attend the same high school as their sibling, pending space availability.



# Admissions Criteria for Magnet/IB

- ❖ Academic Record (submitted electronically by your school)
  - 7th grade report card and 1st MP of 8th grade
- ❖ Accuplacer Testing
  - Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, & Stats (Magnet Only)
  - WritePlacer (IB Only)
- ❖ Two Letters of Recommendation (7th or 8th grade teachers preferred)
  - Math OR Science Teacher
  - English OR Social Studies Teacher

# Application Process

- ❖ Apply online by December 1st at [www.mhrd.org](http://www.mhrd.org)
  - ❖ Intent to Participate (out-of-district only) due 11/17 to resident district
  - ❖ Submit all supplemental materials electronically by December 1st
  - ❖ Admissions Test in Math (Magnet only) or ELA (IB only)- November 18th or December 2nd (select test date/time when applying online)
  - ❖ Lottery for Out-of-District General HS & Aviation: December 13th
  - ❖ Decisions emailed out by December 21st
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# Contact Information

- Dr. Nisha Zoeller, Assistant Superintendent, [nzoeller@mhrd.org](mailto:nzoeller@mhrd.org)
- Dr. Kevin Doyle, Magnet Program Coordinator, [kdoyle@mhrd.org](mailto:kdoyle@mhrd.org)
- Mr. Scott Gambale, IB Program Coordinator, [sgambale@mhrd.org](mailto:sgambale@mhrd.org)

All application materials are available online at [www.mhrd.org](http://www.mhrd.org)



# First Breakout Session

- School Choice Applicants (Magnet, IB, General HS, Aviation) Remain in auditorium. This session is for anyone who does NOT live in Denville, Rockaway Borough, Rockaway Township, or Wharton.
- IB Program (In District students)-- Chorus Room
- Magnet Program (In District students)-- Cafeteria
- Tours- Meet in lobby

Magnet & IB breakouts and tours  
will be repeated in Sessions 2 & 3






# 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 December 1st

All eligible Tier 1 students will be offered seats before eligible Tier 2 students. 23 seats are available.

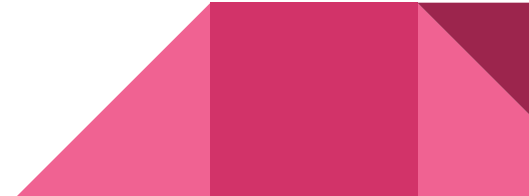


# Decisions for Magnet and IB Programs


- 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.

\*Sibling preference only applies if the sibling is a Choice student who will be enrolled in the district in Fall 2024.

# Aviation Program

- Beginning this year, we are opening up specific seats in our district for students interested in our 3-year Aviation elective sequence.
  - Students will attend Morris Hills or Morris Knolls as general high school students while committing to taking the 3-year Aviation Elective sequence (all other courses the same as General HS)
  - Applicants to the Aviation sequence must submit an essay discussing their interest in the program
  - Admitted Magnet or IB applicants may take Aviation as an elective and should apply to Magnet/IB, not Aviation
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# School Choice Decisions for General HS & Aviation

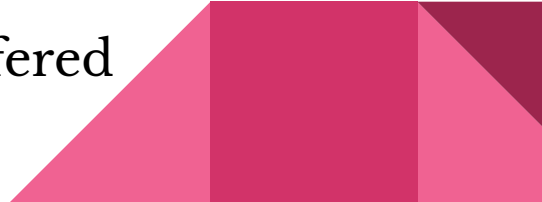
- What happens if more students apply than there are seats available?
    - Preference is given to the following groups:
      - Choice applicants with Choice siblings currently enrolled in district in Grades 9-11
      - Choice applicants who are currently MacKinnon MS Choice students
      - Choice applicants who are current MHRD students but have moved out of district
  - All other applicants will be selected through a random lottery process. (GHS and Aviation have separate lotteries.)
    - 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 5 seats will be allocated to the General HS Program and to Aviation
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# 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 and Aviation 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 the Magnet, IB, or Aviation Program, and there is no General High School seat available, the student must return to their resident district. The student's Magnet, IB, or Aviation Choice seat will be offered to the next student on the Magnet, IB, or Aviation waitlist.
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# Application Process

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