

SCHOOL CHOICE

It is the policy of this school district to admit non-resident students under the terms and conditions of the Inter-district School Choice Law and under the following local conditions.

The decision to admit non-resident students must be reaffirmed annually prior to June 1st by a vote of the School Committee. In the event the Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee participates, the following local conditions would apply:

1. That by May 1 of every school year, the administration will determine the number of spaces in available to choice students.
2. That by June 1 of every school year, if consideration is being given to withdraw from the provisions of the choice law, a public meeting will be held to review this decision.
3. That the selection of non-resident students for admission be in the form of a random drawing when the number of requests exceeds the number of available spaces. There will be two drawings for this purpose. The first will take place during the last week of the current school year but no later than July 1st. The second will be conducted during the week of August 1st and will be based on the possibility of unexpected additional openings. Any school choice slots unfilled after August 1st shall be filled on a rolling basis provided no school choice students will be accepted on or after October 1st of each school year.
4. Any student who is accepted for admission under the provisions of this policy is entitled to remain in the District until graduation from high school except if there is a lack of funding of the program.
5. The School Committee affirms its position that it shall not discriminate in the admission of any child on the basis of *race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, age, genetic information, active military/veteran status, marital status, familial status, ethnic background, homelessness, sexual orientation, ancestry, athletic performance, disability, special need, academic performance or proficiency in the English language, pregnancy or pregnancy-related condition or any other category protected by state or federal law.

*race to include traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to, hair texture, hair type, hair length and protective hairstyles)

SOURCE: MASC Updated 2022

LEGAL REFERENCES: M.G.L. 71:6, 71:6A, 76:6, 76:12, 76:12B
603 CMR 26:00
Acts of 2022, Chapter 117

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2022/Chapter117>

Amended by the Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee December 6, 2018

Amended by the Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee November 9, 2021

Amended by the Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee October 19, 2022

Amended by the Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee March 19, 2024