2015-2016 IMPORTANT UPDATES School Choice Open Enrollment At A Glance

The District School Board of Pasco County is committed to providing students with educational options to support learning that is rigorous and relevant to their world and prepares them for the future. Parents can indicate their request for the best educational option for their children between February 1st and March 1st by completing a School Choice Open Enrollment application on the district web site: www.Pascoschools.org. The following information is provided in the hope that it assists schools in addressing some of the questions that often arise during the application process. We thank you for the support and guidance that you give to our students and their families during the district's Open Enrollment period. Please be aware that several <u>school boundary changes</u> affect students for the 2015-16 school year.

OPEN ENROLLMENT WINDOW:

ALL PARENT INQUIRIES REGARDING CHOICE:

FEBRUARY 1st – MARCH 1st

SCHOOLCHOICE@PASCO.K12.FL.US

CLASS SIZE AMENDMENT CONTINUES TO BE A PRIORITY

APPLICATIONS:

Complete and digital applications will be accepted.

- Provide access to a computer at your site or encourage them to visit local public libraries, which have computers available for public use.
- Each child must have a separate application.
- Applicants from neighboring counties require an approved release from their home county before March 1st.

Students currently on approved School Choice do not need to reapply UNLESS:

- 1. Their address changed after initial approval,
- 2. They reside outside of Pasco County,
- 3. The student will be moving to the next school level (Elementary to Middle OR Middle to High), OR
- 4. They attend WCES, WGES or VES (affected by reopening of QHES).

Employees:

- District School Board of Pasco County employees *must* submit their request within the same timeline as non-employees.
- Employee *preference* will be considered if the employee is (or anticipates being) employed full-time at the requested school or within its feeder pattern. *Please refer to the current Memorandum of Understanding for additional details (exception: new hire or transfer after Open Enrollment deadline).*

If a parent needs to verify the assigned attendance zone, please direct them to the District website, under the section "Parents", then "<u>School Boundaries</u>." If further clarification is needed, please contact the District's Planning Department at 813-794-7970 or 727-774-7970 or 352-524-7970.

ANTICIPATED TIMELINES:

- Determinations to the parents of high school students by May 1st.
- Middle school and elementary school determinations by the end of the current school year.

Please visit the <u>School Choice website</u> to access the School Choice Open Enrollment guidelines and the approved School Choice Open Enrollment plan, approved by the Florida Department of Education, for detailed information regarding Open Enrollment School Choice.