

Martha's Vineyard Public Schools *School Choice Policy*

If it is determined that space is available, the *School Choice Policy* allows children the opportunity to move from a school in the Martha's Vineyard Public School System to the Tisbury School. When the number of applicants exceeds the spaces available, a lottery will be held. In this lottery, priority will be given to siblings of those children who have changed their designated school through the lottery system, and currently attend the Tisbury School.

Any student of a school of choice in the Martha's Vineyard Public School System may transfer through the School Choice Lottery. Each year the Principal(s) of the Tisbury School, with the advice of the School Advisory Councils and staff, will determine which classes have available space for the upcoming year. In determining the spaces available to school choice applicants, the administration will take into consideration class size and dynamics.

Once a student has been selected through the School Choice Lottery, the Tisbury School becomes his/her designated school.

MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE FOR SCHOOL OF CHOICE:

The maximum number of students for all classes is determined by each school. Please speak directly to the Principal's Office in that school.

If class size in any K-8 classes reaches the maximum number of students, there will not be the opportunity for any student from outside the district to transfer to the Tisbury School.

TRANSPORTATION:

Transportation to and from the Tisbury School will be the responsibility of the student's parents.

PROCEDURES:

1. The Superintendent's Office will place a public notice in the local newspapers by **April 1st** inviting individuals wishing to participate in the MVPS School Choice Program to submit letters of request. The deadline for these applications will be noon on **June 15th**.
2. Elementary school principals will meet no later than **July 1st** to review school choice applications and will notify successful applicants no later than **July 1st**.
3. Successful applicants will have until **July 15th** to notify each school if they plan to attend a school of choice. If spaces still exist after this notification, school principals may offer those available spaces to individuals who had previously applied but had been refused. This notification shall be made no later than **August 1st** and applicants will have until **August 15th** to indicate their choice.
4. After a student is officially accepted into the school, he/she does not need to re-apply after the first year.
5. If a student moves to another town during the year after the deadline, the parent of the student may write a letter requesting to stay at that school for the remainder of that school year only. If the student wishes to remain the following year, the parent must re-apply to the school and meet the June deadline for the following year.
6. Once the school year has begun, students new to the Martha's Vineyard Public Schools may apply for school choice transfer at time of enrollment until the December vacation. After that date, no school choice transfers will be considered.

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Revised: 12.01.2004; 5.23.2007; 04.2011; 10.23.2013

Approved:

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