

**SOUTHAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAM E. NORRIS SCHOOL
SCHOOL OF CHOICE**

Introduction

In 1991 a law was enacted to allow parents to send their children to public schools in communities other than the community in which they live. For the coming year Southampton will participate in this Massachusetts School Choice program. Parents do not pay any tuition costs for this program.

How Students are Chosen

Law requires that the selection process for school choice be free from any type of discrimination. Those applying to attend the William E. Norris School shall not be granted or refused enrollment based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, age, ancestry, athletic performance, physical handicap, special need, academic performance or proficiency in English. Solid school citizenship and a good discipline record are important selection considerations.

If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available seats, a random drawing will be held to determine which applicants will be enrolled. This selection process will take place on or before **March 27, 2012**.

Kindergarten Entry Age

Students who are too young for entry into kindergarten in the district where they reside may be accepted as a School Choice student if they meet the District's age standard.

Siblings

The school choice law was amended in 1994 to allowing any sibling of a student *already* enrolled in the receiving district to receive priority for admission to that district. Once these preferences are honored, the remaining openings will be filled through random selection.

Children of Employees

Non-resident town and school department employees who wish to have their children attend school in the district do not receive preference.

Current Residents

Residents of Southampton who move out of Southampton but wish to have their children remain as students in the Norris School do not have any unique claim to the seats their children vacated. Those parents must apply for admission to the school choice program in the same manner as any other parent who does not reside in town.

Continued Enrollment

Once a child has been accepted as a choice student, he or she has the right to remain in that district until graduation from Hampshire Regional High School unless there is a lack of funding for the program or there is a serious violation of the school discipline policy.

Application Process

The following conditions must be in place in order to be eligible for admission:

1. Parent(s) or legal guardian must be a resident of Massachusetts.
2. Space must be available in the program at the grade level for which the student is applying.
3. The student must demonstrate a record of good behavior and solid school citizenship in his/her previous school(s).
4. The application process must be completed in full.
5. The application must be received at the Norris School on or before Friday, March 23, 2012.

The best way for parents and students to obtain important information about the William E. Norris School is to arrange a visit for the purpose of an informational tour. To schedule a tour or obtain a school choice application contact the school office at the William E. Norris School at (413) 527-0811.

WILLIAM E. NORRIS SCHOOL
34 Pomeroy Meadow Road
Southampton, MA 01073-9410
Tel. 413-527-0811 Fax: 413-527-4795

School Choice Application and Terms of Enrollment Agreement

All non-resident students:

- Are eligible to participate in the same elementary school programs and activities as all resident students.
- Must agree to read the student handbook and abide by the policies, procedures, rules and regulations of the William E. Norris School.
- Must make arrangements for transportation as the Southampton School District is not obligated to provide transportation to non-resident pupils for participation in school, before or after school activities, athletics, extra curricular activities, detention or extra help.
- Who fail to demonstrate good behavior and citizenship will not be accepted to the William E. Norris School the following year.
- Who withdraw from the William E Norris School for any reason must re-apply under the school choice program if they wish to return anytime in the future.
- Will be selected by a random drawing if the number of applicants exceeds the number of available seats. **Applications must be received by Friday, March 23, 2012.** The selection process to determine which applicants will be enrolled will be held on or before **March 27, 2012.**

Application for Admission to the **William E. Norris School** under the School Choice Law

Name of Student: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Address: _____

Town/City: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____ email _____

Home Telephone: _____ Work/Cell Phone: _____ Alternate Phone _____

Current School Attending: _____ Current Grade: _____

Address: _____

Street, Town, ZIP _____

Has the applicant ever been expelled or suspended from any school? Yes ____ No ____

If yes, please identify the circumstances: _____

Sibling(s) Name, Age, Grade, School Presently Attending: _____

I certify by signing below that the information furnished on this application form is true, complete and correct. I also understand this school choice request is for the above-named student only and that, if applicable, each sibling also must have submitted his or her own school choice application. I further understand that transportation to and from school is my responsibility.

The school reserves the right to rescind and/or amend any or all open enrollments if it determines that the open enrollment was obtained through misrepresentation or nondisclosure of material fact, there is overcrowding of facilities, the school cannot meet the special needs of a student, the student no longer satisfies the enrollment criteria or for other reasons authorized by law and considered by the district to be in the best interest of the student and/or the school.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____

Print Name _____