

135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

September 5, 2023

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Approval of Revisions to the Controlled Choice Policy

Recommendation: That the School Committee approve revisions to the Controlled Choice

Policy. (First Reading)

Description:

- 1. Application for enrollment into CPS schools for students turning three-years old and four-years old by September 1st will be through the Office of Early Childhood preschool matching system, with the exception of students enrolled via identification of a disability through the district's Office of Student Services via the Special Start Program. Three-year old enrollees will be matched for the Fletcher Scholar Program located at the Fletcher Maynard Academy, the Montessori program located at the Tobin Montessori Elementary School, or to a peer seat in the district's Special Start program located at one of several elementary schools. Four-year old enrollees will be matched in a preschool classroom at a CPS elementary school, or to an available seat in one of the aforementioned multi-year programs.
- 2. Enrollment into a preschool program at a CPS school shall afford a right to matriculate into Kindergarten and subsequent grade levels within that particular elementary school. In the absence of a genuine hardship, students will not be allowed to transfer from one CPS elementary school to another after enrolling for preschool, but unenrolled students turning five-years old by September 1st will have the opportunity to participate in the Kindergarten lottery program consistent with current practice whereby the lottery eligibility occurs the January preceding their Kindergarten year.
- 3. Siblings of students currently enrolled in a CPS elementary school will have a seat reserved in the preschool or Kindergarten class to which they would be enrolled until a specific date in the summer preceding that school year, at which point if the student's family has not claimed that seat it will be available for assignment via a CPS assignment.

Respectfully submitted

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