

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Are students able to select which high school they attend?

Yes. A component of the district's "Bright Futures" Strategic Plan is school choice, which allows students entering high school an opportunity to choose from twelve high school academy options based on their career and college interests.

Research has shown that when students follow a specific path of interest they become more engaged in their learning and are more likely to stay in school. We are extremely pleased that all of our school district's high schools are now *choice* schools. This means every 8th grade student can select from 12 school theme options, at any district high school, which best suits the student's particular area of interest.

### 2. How exactly does a lottery work?

Students select three programs in order of preference. Where possible, students receive their first choice. However, where student demand for a program exceeds availability, a computerized random selection lottery process determines student placement.

Students who do not receive their first choice are considered for their second choice. Placing students in the second choice school may again require lottery processing. These students remain on the wait list for their first choice school in order of computer selection.

### 3. What does it mean if a student is placed on the waiting list?

The wait list refers to the number that was drawn at the time of the lottery. As seats become available, the next person on the list will be contacted. Failure to respond will result in loss of placement.

### 4. How many spots are available for 9th grade in each Choice school?

*Academy of Health Science (HARP)	75 Seats
*International H.S.	125 Seats
*Academy of Earth and Space Science (PANTHER)	50 seats
*Garrett Morgan Academy for Transportation & Engineering (GMA)	50 Seats
*School of Government & Public Administration (GoPA)	250 seats
*School of Information Technology (SOIT)	250 seats
*School of Culinary Arts, Hospitality & Tourism (CAHTS)	250 seats
*Architecture & Construction Trades (ACT)	200 seats
*Business, Technology, Marketing & Finance (BTMF)	250 seats
*School of Education & Training (SET)	250 seats
*Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)	250 seats
*Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts (audition required)	75 seats

**\*Rosa Parks Application Process is not through the lottery. Please see your Guidance Counselor for the application.**

### 5. What do I do if the application contains the wrong information or was not filled out correctly?

Changes to an application are not possible once the lottery is conducted. Before signing the application please be sure the address, birthdate, phone number, and selections are correct.

### 6. What do I do after the lottery has been conducted?

After the lottery has been conducted, the results will be mailed to the parent within three weeks of the lottery.

### 7. What if my child misses the lottery or did not submit an application?

Your child will have an opportunity to pick from one of the available academies. You must contact Central Registration at 973-321-2501 to make your choice.

### 8. What if I do not like the placement that I received or I have changed my mind?

If you would like to change to a different academy you may do so during the months of July and August pending available space. Parent and student must come to Central Registration located at 90 Delaware Ave. to see if and where there is space available.

## Open House Dates

### Important Dates:

**November 13, 2014**—Applications available at schools

**December 15, 2014**—Completed applications due to guidance counselor

**December 19, 2014**—Completed applications delivered to Office of Central Registration

**Week of January 17th, 2015**—Lottery conducted

**Week of February 9th, 2015** —School placement notices are mailed home



**November 10, 2014** 6:00-7:00 pm  
*Academy of Earth & Space Science (PANTHER)*  
201 Memorial Drive

**November 12, 2014** 4:00-6:00 pm  
*Rosa L. Parks School of Fine & Performing Arts*  
413 12th Ave.

**November 13, 2014** 2:00-6:00 pm  
*Academy of Health Science (HARP)*  
175 Main Street

**November 13, 2014** 5:00-7:00 pm  
*Culinary Arts, Hospitality & Tourism*  
*Government & Public Administration*  
*School of Information Technology*  
Eastside High School Campus - 150 Park Ave.

**November 19, 2014** 6:00-8:00 pm  
*School of Education & Training*  
JFK Educational Complex - 61-127 Preakness Ave.

**November 20, 2014** 5:30-8:00 pm  
*Architecture & Construction Trades*  
JFK Educational Complex - 61-127 Preakness Ave.

**November 20, 2014** 5:30-7:30 pm  
*Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics*  
JFK Educational Complex - 61-127 Preakness Ave.

**November 20, 2014** 5:30- 7:30 pm  
*Business, Technology, Marketing & Finance*  
JFK Educational Complex - 61-127 Preakness Ave.

**November 20, 2014** 5:30- 7:30 pm  
*International High School*  
*Garrett Morgan Academy for Transportation & Engineering*  
200 Grand Street

## HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE PROCESS

*2015-2016*

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

Office of Central Registration  
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Paterson, NJ 07503  
973-321-2501  
973-321-2408 (fax)