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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 30, 2021

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Contact: Jennifer C. Jones, Director of Community & School Affairs, 478-988-6390, Jennifer.C.Jones@hcbe.net

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HB251 School Transfer Option Based on Space Availability

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA - The 2009 Georgia General Assembly approved House Bill 251 (HB251), giving parents/guardians the option to request that their children attend any school within the school system *based on space availability*. School districts determine available classroom space after all assigned students have been enrolled.

In accordance with the law, the Houston County School District created a process for parents to exercise this school transfer option and a process to determine space availability. Openings are grade specific.

Currently there are openings at five elementary schools: Centerville, Hilltop, Lindsey, Morningside, and Northside. At this time, middle schools and high schools are at capacity.

Parents who wish to request a school transfer may print a “2021-2022 Application to Request HB251 Public School Transfer” from the website or pick up a form from any school. Applications will be accepted July 1, 2021, through August 20, 2021. **Applications must be postmarked by August 20, 2021.**

Applications will be approved based on the order in which they are received. Families who request a transfer will be notified of approval or denial by August 27, 2021.

The list of schools with classroom space availability will be finalized based on enrollment on the tenth day of school, August 16, 2021. This allows time for a more accurate enrollment number at each school based on new students and school withdrawals.

All students will begin the school year at their zoned school. Approved transfers will be effective by September 7, 2021, following notification. Parents who transfer their children under HB251 are required by law to assume all costs and responsibilities related to the transportation of the student to and from school as long as the child remains at that school.

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Applications for transfer must be mailed to the Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Richard Rogers. The address is: Houston County School District, 1100 Main Street, Perry, Georgia, 31069. **Schools are not accepting these applications.**

Information regarding HB251 is posted to the Houston County School District website, www.hcbe.net, under the Parents tab and on the Zoning [webpage](#). For more information, contact School Operations at 478-218-7513.

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1100 Main Street - Perry, Georgia 31069

478-988-6200

www.hcbe.net

**HB251 Public School Transfer
2021-2022 Preliminary Classroom Availability**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH CAPACITY (BY GRADE)

GRADE	SCHOOL
K	Centerville, Hilltop
1	No available space
2	Lindsey
3	No available space
4	Lindsey, Northside
5	Lindsey, Morningside

MIDDLE SCHOOLS CAPACITY (BY GRADE)

Grade	SCHOOL
6	No available space
7	No available space
8	No available space

HIGH SCHOOLS CAPACITY

Houston County High School	No available space
Northside High School	No available space
Perry High School	No available space
Veterans High School	No available space
Warner Robins High School	No available space



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HB 251 (2021-2022) - Implementation Procedures

1. Parents of Houston County School District students will be notified of HB251 by July 1st of each year and provided with a preliminary list of schools based on existing data.
2. Parents may get an “**Application to Request HB251 Public School Transfer**” from their zoned school or may download a copy from www.hcbe.net beginning on July 1st.
3. Applications for transfer must be mailed to the Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Richard Rogers, Houston County School District, 1100 Main Street, Perry, GA, 31069.
4. Applications for transfer will be available online July 1, 2021. Applications will be accepted **July 1, 2021, until August 20, 2021**. After the August 20, 2021, deadline, no applications will be accepted for the remainder of the school year.
5. All applications for transfer must be postmarked by the **August 20, 2021**, deadline.
6. Capacity will be determined by a school’s enrollment on the tenth day of the school year after all assigned students have been enrolled.
7. In the event the number of transfer requests exceeds the available capacity in the particular school, requests will be approved based on the order in which they were received.
8. Parents will be notified of the approval or denial of their request by **August 27, 2021**.
9. All students are to begin the school year at their zoned school. Approved transfers will be effective by Tuesday, **September 7, 2021**.
10. Once a request is approved, the parent assumes all costs and responsibilities related to the transportation of their child to and from the school so long as the child remains at that assigned school.
11. Once approved at a school, the student may attend for the rest of the grade band (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12).

Dr. Richard Rogers, Deputy Superintendent
Houston County School District

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