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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 30, 2020

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Contact: Beth McLaughlin, Director of Community & School Affairs, 478-988-6390, ext. 0, Beth.McLaughlin@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 11 elementary schools: Centerville, Hilltop, Kings Chapel, Lindsey, Miller, Morningside, Parkwood, Pearl Stephens, Shirley Hills, Tucker and Westside. At this time, middle schools and high schools are at capacity.

Parents who desire to request a school transfer may print a “2020-2021 Application to Request HB251 Public School Transfer” from the website or pick up a form from any school. Applications will be accepted July 1, 2020, through August 21, 2020. **Applications must be postmarked by August 21, 2020.**

Applications will be approved based on the order in which they are received. Families that request a transfer will be notified of approval or denial by August 28, 2020.

The list of schools with classroom space availability will be finalized based on enrollment on the tenth day of school, August 17, 2020. 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 8, 2020, 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.

MORE

HB251 School Transfer Option Based on Space Availability / page 2 of 2

Applications for transfer must be mailed to the Assistant Superintendent for School Operations, Dr. Richard Rogers. The address is: Houston County Board of Education, P.O. Box 1850, Perry, Georgia, 31069. **Schools are not accepting these applications.**

Information regarding HB251 is posted to the Board of Education website, www.hcbe.net, under the Parents tab and on the School Zones [webpage](#). The preliminary list of schools with available classroom space, implementation procedures and application follow. For more information, contact School Operations at 478-218-7513.

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P.O. Box 1850 - Perry, Georgia 31069
 478-988-6200
www.hcbe.net

**HB251 Public School Transfer
 2020-2021 Preliminary Classroom Availability**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH CAPACITY (BY GRADE)

GRADE	SCHOOL
K	Lindsey, Morningside, Tucker
1	Morningside
2	Kings Chapel, Shirley Hills
3	No available space
4	Centerville, Lindsey, Miller, Morningside, Shirley Hills, Westside
5	Hilltop, Lindsey, Parkwood, Pearl Stephens, Tucker

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



HB 251 (2020-2021) - 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 *Assistant Superintendent for School Operations*, HCBOE, P.O. Box 1850, Perry, GA, 31069.
4. Applications for transfer will be available online July 1, 2020. Applications will be accepted **July 1, 2020, until August 21, 2020**. After the August 21st deadline, no applications will be accepted for the remainder of the school year.
5. All applications for transfer must be postmarked by the **August 21, 2020**, 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 28, 2020**.
9. All students are to begin the school year at their zoned school. Approved transfers will be effective by Tuesday, **September 8, 2020**.
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, Assistant Superintendent
Office of School Operations
478-218-7512

Houston County Board of Education

2020-2021 APPLICATION TO REQUEST HB251 PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSFER

MUST BE POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 21, 2020

(Georgia Department of Education House Bill 251 2009)

Please complete an application for EACH individual student and MAIL by 08/21/2020 to:

Dr. Richard Rogers, Assistant Superintendent
HCBOE School Operations
P.O. Box 1850
Perry, GA 31069

Applications will not be accepted at the school site. Faxed or scanned applications will not be accepted.

Under a 2009 state law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2131), parents may request a transfer to another public school within their local school district if space is available. If you would like to request a transfer, please complete the information below.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student's Name: _____ Grade Entering: _____

Home Address: _____
Street City State Zip

School child is zoned to attend: _____

Special Education Placement? YES or NO If yes, what is exceptionality _____

Name of Custodial Parent/Guardian Requesting Transfer: _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail _____

PARENT REQUEST FOR SCHOOL TRANSFER

I am requesting a transfer for my child to attend one of the following schools in the Houston County School System. I fully understand that my child may only receive my first choice of schools if space is available at the time this request is approved by the local school district.

Parent/Guardian Ranked List of Schools for Transfer:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date