## PROGRAM OF CHOICE APPLICATION FORM FOR 2017-18

(For students residing in St. Johns County who will be new to the school district or who don't have access to email.)

Submit this form to Theresa Dodd, SJCSD Office of Career Education, 10 Hildreth Dr., St. Augustine, FL, 32084, or fax it to her at (904) 547-4865.

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## **Policies and Procedures**

A Program of Choice is defined as multi-year, specialized program that is available to students from across the district.

To be eligible, students must be a <u>resident</u> of St. Johns County.

- 1. All completed applications must be submitted by the **established due dates**.
- 2. Each school will determine the number of student seats available in each Program of Choice and may deny entry solely based on seats available. A lottery system is available to ensure students have equal access to a Program of Choice. Students may be placed on a waiting list and accepted as seats become available until the first day of school.
- 3. Rising 11th and 12th grade students are **ineligible** for applying to a new Program of Choice.
- 4. Each Program of Choice sets expectations for academic progress, attendance and behavior. Should a student not meet such expectations the following actions will ensue:
  - a) The principal of the out-of-zone Program of Choice school may initiate action to rescind a student's out-of-zone waiver for failing grades, excessive school absences or tardiness and/or recurrent discipline problems.
  - b) Prior to rescinding a student's out-of-zone waiver, the principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian in writing citing the reason for potential revocation the out-of-zone waiver.
  - c) The parent/guardian shall be permitted a reasonable time and opportunity to address or correct the situation.
  - d) If not corrected in a reasonable amount of time, the principal or designee will make a recommendation to the Superintendent for revocation of the student's out-of-zone waiver. In most instances the revocation will be effective at the end of the semester after grades have been awarded.
- 5. Mid-Year transfers to a new Program of Choice are not allowed.
- 6. In the event that a student opts to drop out of, or ceases to be enrolled in, a Program of Choice at an out-of-zone school, the student will be required to return to his/her zoned school at the start of the new semester once credit has been awarded.
- 7. Students may apply for multiple programs of study; however, students may only enroll in multiple programs at **one** school. All applicants will be placed in one program before acceptances to additional programs will be offered.
- 8. Students who are denied entry to a Program of Choice may appeal the decision to the Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction by July 1. The Associate Superintendent will convene the appeals committee to consider the appeal and issue a recommendation to the Superintendent. The decision of the Superintendent is final.
- 9. Students may not apply for a Program of Choice at an out-of-zone school if the program exists at the student's zoned high school. (*Programs that are replicated in the district: International Baccalaureate at Allen D. Nease and Pedro Menendez and Cambridge AICE Program at St. Augustine; VyStar Academy of Business and Finance at Bartram Trail and Pedro Menendez; JROTC programs at Bartram Trail, Nease and St. Augustine; Information Technology at Bartram Trail and Ponte Vedra.*
- 10. An exception to the rule above only occurs if the parent/guardians of the student are active military. The parent/guardian is required this year to show their active military card to school office staff, so it can be documented in the student's record in eSchool Plus. Once documented, those students are allowed by law to apply to any program at any school.
- 11. In the past, out-of-zone waivers had to be completed if students were applying to a non-zoned school. This is no longer required. If the student is accepted into a program at a non-zoned school, they will automatically be awarded the waiver.

## **New Students entering the St. Johns County School District**

Any student entering 9th or 10th grade not previously enrolled in a St. Johns County public school within the prior school year is eligible to apply for any Program of Choice in the St. Johns County School District up until the student's first day of entry. Students entering the St. Johns County School District enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade who were previously enrolled in an equivalent Program of Choice at his/her previous school may apply for the equivalent Program of Choice, regardless of school zone, up until the first day of entry. Acceptance will depend on there being availability in the program.