

Providence
Schools

FINDING THE RIGHT FIT

The School Choice and
Enrollment Process in
Providence Public Schools

Fall 2024



Agenda

- Providence Schools (PPSD) School Choice Overview
- What is the “lottery”?
- School Choice Timeline
- Choosing Schools & Special Programs
- The Registration Center

Poll: Who's in the room?

I am... / Yo soy

Grade level(s):

My school(s) / Mi escuela(s):



Who participates in school choice?

- Students moving between schools for Kindergarten, Grade 6, and Grade 9
- The process for enrolling in a charter school is separate and we will not cover that today
- The process for enrolling in pre-Kindergarten is separate and we will not cover that today



What is school choice?

- Students are not automatically assigned a school based on where they live
- All schools are available to all students
- Families choose which schools they prefer
- If more people choose a school than there are available seats, there is a lottery



The goals for the process:

- Fair and equitable for every child
- Families have greater input in where their child will attend
- Students in the neighborhood have preference
- Siblings can attend the same school
- For high school students, access for all to Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs

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What is “the lottery”?

If you have a student entering Kindergarten, Grade 6, or Grade 9 you will submit **four preferred schools**.

Students are assigned to schools in order of your choices.

If there are more students who prefer a school than there are available seats, then students are assigned by lottery and based on neighborhood and sibling status.



Sibling & Neighborhood Status

Siblings

Siblings of current students are given preference. For example, if you have a Grade 10 student at Central and an entering Grade 9 student, your younger child will have preference for Central if you choose that school. A sibling is any student **with the same parent/guardian and living in the same home.**

Neighborhood

For the lottery, 80% of seats in each school are for neighborhood students and 20% of seats are for non-neighborhood students.

Neighborhood:

- **Elementary:** Within 1 mile of student's home address
- **Middle:** Within 1.5 miles of student's home address
- **High:** Within 3 miles of student's home address

Every family will have at a minimum two (2) Neighborhood schools. Some students may have more than two Neighborhood schools, giving them more neighborhood choices. Those students who do not have at least two schools within their "neighborhood" will still have their two closest schools count as Neighborhood schools.



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Timeline for 2025-26: Middle & High School

Middle School - Current Grade 5 Students

- December 12 (this Thursday!): School Choice Fair
- December & January: Students identified for Advanced Academics
- Early January 2025: School choice forms sent on ParentSquare
- February 14, 2025: School choice forms due
- Late March: Notification of placement (lottery) results

High School - Current Grade 8 Students

- December 12 (this Thursday!): School Choice Fair
- January 6: Career and Technical Education (CTE) applications open
- Early January: General school choice forms sent on Parent Square
- January 9: CTE Parent Info Night
- January 12: CTE Applications close
 - *Note: Students applying after this date are placed in waitlist status*
- February 14: School choice forms due
- February 24: CTE admissions notifications
- Late March: Notification of placement (lottery) results



Timeline for 2025-26: Kindergarten

Kindergarten (turning 5 before 9/1/2025)

- February 3: Kindergarten registration open
- May 7: Kindergarten on-time registration closed

Note: Current Pre-K students do not need to re-register but will need to complete an Intent to Enroll form and school preferences interview.



HELPFUL HINTS FOR COMPLETING CHOICE FORMS

Update your contact information.

- ✓ Please ensure that your current address and telephone number are accurate.
- ✓ To update addresses or telephone reach out to your student's current school.

Know your neighborhood schools.

- ✓ Your address on file must be within the distance for your student to be given neighborhood preference.
- ✓ You have at least two neighborhood schools.

Submit the choice form on time!

- ✓ Students who do not submit on time are assigned to the closest school with available seats.
- ✓ Students are added to the wait list after anyone who was in the lottery

Wait Lists and Transfers

- Students not assigned to their first choice school in the lottery are automatically assigned to the waitlist for any school higher in their choices
- Waitlists are ordered by preference: siblings first, then neighborhood students, then non-neighborhood students
- Transfers are processed as soon as a seat becomes available
- After the lottery and in other grades, students are added to the waitlist on a first-come, first-served basis
- Waitlists expire each year in the spring

Questions so far?



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Choosing Schools



SCHOOL CHOICE FAIR

FERIA DE SELECCIÓN ESCOLAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024

JUEVES 12 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2024

5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

70 Fricker Street, Providence, RI 02903

Providence
Schools

Special Programs: Advanced Academics

- *Advanced Academics classes engage students in rigorous learning opportunities with differentiated instruction that is responsive to the academic, social and emotional needs of the students.*
- *Advanced Academics is offered in three course tracks*
 - *STEM: Science, Technology, Math*
 - *Humanities: ELA, Social Studies*
 - *Both: All Advanced Core Classes*
- *Students are invited into the program based on a combination of*
 - *4th grade RICAS Math and/or ELA performance*
 - *RICAS growth from 3rd to 4th grade*
 - *STAR Math and/or Reading performance in 5th grade*

Minimum Criteria:

- *2 on RICAS Reading or Math in 4th Grade and*
- *5th grade level on STAR Math or Reading*

Advanced Academics Timeline

Date	Event
mid-December	Current Grade 5 students: Letters of Invitation
December-January	Application window for students who do not currently attend PPSD
late-January	Appeals must be submitted
early- February	External Applications decisions and Appeal decisions
late-March	Current Grade 5 students: Notification of placement (lottery) results



Special Programs: Bilingual/ Dual Language

Program Goals:

- College and career-readiness
- Grade level academic proficiency in English & Spanish
- Develop bilingualism, biliteracy and multicultural competence

Middle school: Roger Williams Elementaries:

- William D'Abate K-5 (Bilingual)
- Sackett K-5 (Bilingual)
- Young & Woods Elementary School K-1, 3-5
- Spaziano Elementary K-5
- Leviton Elementary K-5
- Lima Elementary K-5
- Roger Williams Middle School 6-8

[Dual Language K-8 Program Flyer](#)



Special Programs: Career & Technical Education

There are 28 CTE Programs in 7 high schools. We encourage students to choose programs that reflect their career interest.

Industry Cluster	# of Programs	Programs
Construction	5	Carpentry, Electrical, General Construction, HVAC, Plumbing (PCTA)
Manufacturing	1	Maritime Welding (PCTA)
Engineering	2	Pre-Engineering (PCTA + Mount Pleasant)
Information Technology	3	P-TECH (ECubed), Computer Science (Mount Pleasant + JSEC)
Healthcare & Life Sciences	5	CNA, Community Healthcare Worker, EMT (Alvarez) BioMedical and Dental (JSEC)
Education	1	Teacher Academy (Mount Pleasant)
Arts	4	Graphic Arts (PCTA); Visual Arts, Film Production (Hope), Music (Mount Pleasant)
Law & Public Safety	3	Law & Public Safety, JROTC, Firefighter (Central)
Hospitality	2	Culinary Arts, Pastry Arts (PCTA)
Business	2	Business/Cosmetology (PCTA); Finance (Alvarez)
Transportation	1	Auto (PCTA)



Providence's Five Redesign Schools

<https://www.providenceschools.org/redesign>

Mount Pleasant Early College & Career Academy

- An early college model school with dual and concurrent enrollment.
- Offers CTE programs in advanced manufacturing, pre-engineering, teacher, academy, and computer science.
- Partnerships with RIC, URI, and industry partners.



Hope Visual & Performing Arts

- Integrated arts with a focus on project-based learning and interdisciplinary instruction.
- Partnerships with RISD, Brown, and community art organizations.



DeSesto STEAM Academy

- Campus focused on STEAM education and programs.
- Inquiry-based instructional practices with robust SEL supports.



Dr. Jorge Alvarez High School of Healthcare & Finance Careers

- Healthcare and finance career pathways with project-based learning and work-based learning instruction.
- Partnerships with RI hospitals, RI Nursing Education Center, NAF, and local and national financial institutions.



Juanita Sanchez Life Sciences Institute

- Project-based and work based learning focused on life sciences and bio technology.
- Partnerships with RI Hospitals, bio-tech startups, the NAF and the new Life Sciences Hub in downtown Providence.



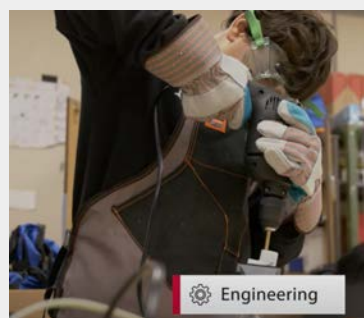
Redesign Themed Courses for 6th and 9th Graders

DelSesto STEAM	Hope Visual & Performing Arts	JSEC Life Sciences	Alvarez Healthcare & Finance	Mount Pleasant Early College & Career
Art	Dance	Biomedical Principles*	Healthcare Exploration*	Introduction to Teaching*
Computer Science	Film*	Computer Science Essentials*	Introduction to Finance*	Automation and Robotics*
Media Tech	Music		Computer Literacy	Engineering*
Music	Theatre			Music*
Media Arts	Visual Arts*			

*Career and Technical Education Course



STEAM Academy



Initiative	Detail
STEM Happens Network	The partner will train and support ten 6th grade teachers in STEM integration, allowing teachers to introduce STEM units in core content courses.
STEAM Electives	An expansion of STEAM electives ensures all 6th grade students will have access to multiple courses in the arts, digital media, and more. Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses include Design and Modeling and Computer Science for Innovators.
Learn365 Extended Learning	In partnership with the City of Providence, DelSesto received a Learn365 grant to expand after school programming aligned to STEAM with Providence After School Alliance (PASA).
Facilities Investments	DelSesto is procuring high-quality flex-space furniture and equipment to create two STEAM rooms that will be used for STEAM-based elective courses. DelSesto's renovated library includes a new makerspace for additional STEAM learning opportunities.



Visual & Performing Arts



Initiative	Detail
Integrated Arts Cohort	Fourteen educators will engage in professional development led by Brown University, integrated arts coaching, and implementation of three integrated arts units per teacher.
Integrated Arts Implementation	All 9th grade students will participate in integrated arts learning experiences across content areas.
Arts Exploratory	Freshmen will explore arts courses spanning the visual and performing arts to meet graduation requirements and/or further explore art pathways.
Student Art Advisory Group	Students will help build the school's arts-based culture, climate and initiatives and serve as peer support.
New Facilities Investments	A new dance studio and mixed-use space for Fall 2024 will enhance the newly renovated auditorium.





Life Sciences



Initiative	Detail
Biomedical/Computer Science Exploratory	9th grade students will take first year CTE courses in biomedical and computer sciences and elect a pathway after their freshman year.
Expanding Work-based Learning	The newly hired Career and Industry Coordinator will work to place students in work-based learning and internship opportunities in the life sciences.
NAF Partnership	NAF will continue to work with the Redesign Team to improve CTE instruction, and expand work-based learning opportunities with the Industry Advisory Board and LifeSpan.
New Facilities Investments	JSEC will receive a brand new biomedical lab with new furniture, equipment, and space design ready for use in Fall 2024.





Healthcare & Finance Careers



Initiative	Detail
Healthcare Program	Healthcare students at each grade level will engage in college and career-connecting activities led by the Rhode Island College nursing faculty and students.
Finance Program	9th grade students enrolled in the Finance Pathway will take Introduction to Finance with opportunities to connect with local business leaders and college students pursuing business majors.
Rhode Island Nursing Education Center (RINEC)	RINEC will allow Alvarez faculty and students thirty days at this state-of-the-art facility to engage in hands-on skills lab and interdisciplinary learning.
Industry Advisory Board	The Alvarez Industry Advisory Board will continue to play a key role in designing work-based learning opportunities and offering students job application trainings.



Cuidado de la Salud



Cuidado de la Salud



Cuidado de la Salud



Early College & Career



Initiative	Detail
Pathways & Early College Prep	Freshmen can enroll in CTE programs in Music, Engineering, Teacher Pathway, and Computer Science. All students, regardless of CTE pathways, will receive a college preparatory education enhanced by project-based learning and opportunities for dual and concurrent enrollment.
Dual Enrollment Program	Mount Pleasant will launch its first Dual Enrollment Program. Twenty-three qualifying seniors will take two college credit-bearing courses on the Rhode Island College campus taught by college faculty.
Providence College Program	Mount Pleasant has partnered with Providence College to send twenty students to take a College Skills course on campus over the summer.
Pre-Engineering Expansion	NAF will support the expansion of the Pre-Engineering program through the Engineering Industry Advisory Board focused on work-based learning.



Camino Para Maestros



Música



Ciencias de la Computación



Questions?



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The Registration & Welcome Center

- Assistance with new registrations, questions about school choice, or program information
- Transfer requests and waitlist status
- Questions regarding transportation (busing)

325 Ocean Street (behind
Young Woods Elementary)

Email: infoereg@ppsd.org
Call or text: 401-420-7189

Your student's current school:

- Update address
- Withdrawals
- School choice forms

Last Questions?