

NVUSD Open Enrollment Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the dates for Enrollment?

Open Enrollment begins on October 28th and will end on November 29th.

2. Why did the open enrollment dates change this year?

The Open Enrollment dates were changed due to potential elementary school closures. The final report will be presented to the NVUSD Board of Trustees on October 24th. Questions and answers related to potential school closure are included at the end of this document.

3. What is open enrollment and why would I consider it?

Open enrollment is a process for offering families school choice, where possible.

4. Is the parent/guardian's choice guaranteed?

No, there must be adequate openings at the requested school, including enough space reserved for students who may move into the attendance area during the year. If the number of open enrollment requests exceeds the number of openings, selection will be made through a lottery process, following NVUSD Board Policy.

5. Will my child automatically roll into the next school based on school boundary of where they are currently attending?

If you open enrolled your child into their current school, and your child is either a current 5th or 8th grader, your child will automatically be placed into the middle or high school of your residence address and will not roll into the middle or high school area of your 'open enrolled' elementary school. If you wish to change your placement, you may utilize the open enrollment process.

6. What is the difference between Transitional Kindergarten (TK) 'district' and 'open enrolled' attendance?

The TK programs are not offered at every NVUSD school. If a TK student applies through the open enrollment system with a choice application and is accepted, the student is an 'open enrolled' TK student. If the family requests a TK seat through the central enrollment center, and is assigned a school, the student is a 'district' placed TK student.

7. How does TK work for 'district placed' TK students?

If your TK school was a 'district placement' and you decide you would like to remain at the TK school for kindergarten, you will need to participate in the open enrollment process. Otherwise, 'district placed' TK students will be returned to their school of residence for kindergarten.

8. How does TK work for 'open enrolled' TK students?

If your TK school was through open enrollment and you decide you would like to remain at the TK school for kindergarten, you do not need to participate in the open enrollment process. You may remain in the school TK-5.

9. I work at a school and would like my child to attend where I work, what should I do?

District staff must apply through open enrollment to request their child attend the school where the parent/caregiver works, if the school is outside parent/caregiver school of residence area, and if that is the parent/caregiver primary permanent place of employment.

10. Are special education students eligible to apply for an open enrollment position?

Yes, all students may complete an open enrollment application, final placement will take into consideration, if the instructional program offered at the requested school meets the student's needs as prescribed in the IEP and if openings are available.

11. If I have a current 'intra-district transfer' do I have to reapply each year?

No, you only need to apply at transitional years, 5th to 6th and 8th to 9th.

12. Can open enrollment affect your athletic eligibility during high school?

Athletic eligibility is determined by the rules and regulations established by the California Interscholastic Federation. Questions about athletic eligibility should be submitted to the Athletic Directors at the high schools.

13. When will families receive open enrollment notifications?

Seat offerings will begin Monday, January 13, 2020, upon return from winter break. Families will receive instructions to return to the application system to accept or decline placement, or view waitlist numbers.

14. If the parent selects a school other than the school determined by the residence, how do students get to and from school?

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing transportation to and from a school of choice. If space is available on an established bus route, they may ride a school bus.

Questions and Answers Related to Potential School Closure

15. What if one of my open enrollment choices is closed?

If the board takes action on October 24th and a school or schools are closed, the impacted schools will not be available as an enrollment choice for 2020-2021.

16. Our student lives in the Yountville boundary. What happens if the board takes action on October 24th and it closes?

Yountville and Willow will combine boundaries. Students that live in the Yountville boundary will become residents of the Willow boundary. Willow will become the new home school for resident students of Yountville Elementary. Students that live in the Yountville boundary will automatically be transferred to Willow. Your student may also choose to attend another school via the Open Enrollment Process. We will send you a written notification after October 24th.

17. Our student lives in the Yountville boundary and we would like our student to attend a school other than Willow. Can we participate in Open Enrollment?

Yes, your placement is subject to available space at the school that you are applying for.

18. Our student is not a resident of the Yountville boundary and attends Yountville via the Open Enrollment or Intra District Transfer process. What happens if the board takes action on October 24th and the school closes?

We will automatically move all students from Yountville to Willow, via a "Consolidation Fall 2020 Plan", including students that do not live in the Yountville boundary. Your student may also attend their school of residence based on your address or choose to enroll in another school via the Open Enrollment Process. We will send you a written notification with your choices after October 24th.

19. Our student is not a resident of the Yountville boundary and attends Yountville via the Open Enrollment or Intra District Transfer process and we do not want our student(s) to attend our home school based on our address. Can we participate in Open Enrollment?

Yes, your placement is subject to available space at the school that you are applying for.

20. Our family lives in the Mt. George boundary. What happens if the board takes action on October 24th and it closes?

Mt. George and Alta Heights will combine boundaries. Students that live in the Mt. George boundary will become residents of Alta Heights. Alta Heights will become the new home school for resident students of Mt. George Elementary. Students that live in the Mt. George boundary will automatically be transferred to Alta Heights. Your student may also choose to attend another school via the Open Enrollment Process. We will send you a written notification after October 24th.

21. Our student lives in the Mt. George boundary and we don't want our student(s) to attend Alta Heights. Can we participate in Open Enrollment?

Yes, your placement is subject to available space at the school that you are applying for.

22. Our student is not a resident of the Mt. George boundary and attends Mt. George via the Open Enrollment or Intra District Transfer process. What happens if the board takes action on October 24th and it closes?

We will automatically move all students from Mt. George to Alta Heights, via a "Consolidation Fall 2020 Plan", including students that do not live in the Mt. George boundary. Your student may also attend their school of residence based on your address or choose to enroll in another school via the Open Enrollment Process. We will send you a written notification after October 24th.

23. Our student is not a resident of the Mt. George boundary and attends Mt. George via the Open Enrollment or Intra District Transfer process and we do not want our student to attend our home school based on our address. Can we participate in Open Enrollment?

Yes, you may. This is subject to available space at the school that you are applying for.

24. The term consolidation has been used to describe the school closure of Yountville. What does this mean?

The community has expressed the desire to keep students together as much as possible and attempt to limit the impacts. The district will recommend consolidation of Yountville with Willow. The term Consolidation 2020-2021 will be used going forward. The term Consolidation 2020-2021 means that students who currently attend Yountville will be moved in our databases to Willow in one group regardless of if they attend Yountville as a resident of the Yountville boundary or attend via the open enrollment or intra district transfer process. If families don't want to attend Willow, they will need to participate in the Open Enrollment Process or opt to attend their home school. While students will be moved in a group, the assigned school based on a parent's physical address will only be changed for families that live in the current Yountville boundary. When students transition to Middle School, they will attend based on their residence address, but can change middle schools based on the open enrollment process. This plan is subject to board approval on October 24, 2019.

25. The term consolidation has been used to describe the school closure of Mt. George. What does this mean?

The community has expressed the desire to keep students together as much as possible and attempt to limit the impacts. The district will recommend the consolidation of Mt. George with Alta Heights. We are going to use the term Consolidation 2020-2021 going forward. The term Consolidation 2020-2021 means that students who currently attend Mt. George will be moved in our databases to Alta Heights in one group regardless of if they attend Mt. George as a resident of the Mt. George boundary or attend via the open enrollment or intra district transfer process. If families don't want to attend Alta Heights, they will need to participate in the Open Enrollment Process or opt to attend their home school. While students will be moved in a group, the assigned school based on a parent's physical address will only be changed for families that live in the current Mt. George boundary. When students transition to Middle School, they will attend based on their residence address, but can change middle schools based on the open enrollment process. This plan is subject to board approval on October 24, 2019.

26. Will resident students and currently attending students of a school identified for possible school closure be given a lottery priority in the open enrollment process?

Staff is recommending that our Board Policy be changed to provide priority to impacted families through our lottery process. The NVUSD Board of Trustees will consider this action at the October 24, 2019, meeting. We are recommending that our lottery be changed to as follows:

Open Enrollment applicants within the socioeconomic balance goals for each school in the following priority order:

Open Enrollment applicants within the socioeconomic balance goals for each school in the following priority order:

1. Students residing within the attendance area of a charter school who do not wish to attend a charter school.
2. Siblings of students already in attendance in that school.
3. Students residing in the attendance area of a school that has been designated by the Board to close at the end of the current school year; and who either: (a) are currently attending the school designated for closure, or (b) in the following school year will be entering the earliest grade level of the school designated for closure.
4. Students whose parent/guardian is assigned to that school as his/her primary place of employment. Primary place of employment means an annual assignment at that school as a permanent or probationary employee of the district.
5. Program alignment from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school for:
 - a. Dual Language Immersion
 - b. International Baccalaureate
 - c. International Spanish Academy (ISA)
 - d. Leadership Academy Youth Leaders in Action (LAYLA)
 - e. Legacy Youth Academy

6. For all other applications for open enrollment outside a school's attendance area, the Superintendent or designee shall use a random, unbiased selection process (e.g., a lottery) to determine who shall be admitted whenever a school receives admission requests that are in excess of the school's capacity. (Education Code 35160.5)

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