



Grant Parish School Board

P.O. Box 208
Colfax, Louisiana 71417-0208
Phone: 318-627-3274 • Fax: 318-627-5931
Sheila S. Jackson, Superintendent

Board Members:
Lisa Roberts, President
Bill Riggs, Vice-President
Randy Browning
Karen Layton
Lloyd Whitman
Mike Slaughter
Mary Bullock
Debbie McFarland

April 2, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Act 853 of 2014 provides for the right of a parent or legal guardian to enroll his child in a school other than the school to which the child was zoned for enrollment based upon Grant Parish School Board's attendance zones. If the school at which the child was most recently enrolled received a School Performance Score of "D" or "F" in the most recent school year, students are eligible to apply for transfer for one year. Receiving schools are required to have a School Performance Score of "A", "B" or "C" in the most recent school year using the state's school and district accountability system. Act 853 provides for certain eligibility criterion and does not obligate the district to allow for enrollment beyond one school year.

Colfax Elementary was identified as a Comprehensive Intervention Required school during the 2017-2018 school year. Students are eligible to transfer to an A, B, or C school within the school district if **capacity, location and student enrollment requirements** allows. Currently, Verda Elementary and South Grant Elementary are identified as receiving schools. According to ACT 853, choice enrollment is for one year only and to remain in school choice a student must enroll every year.

If you wish to participate in School Choice, please pick up an application at the Grant Parish School Board, 512 Main Street, Colfax, LA beginning May 1, 2019. Full policy and requirements are available at the Grant Parish School Board or online at www.gpsb.org. Applications will be accepted until May 10, 2019. Because enrollment is subject to limited availability based on receiving school's enrollment, it is not guaranteed that your child will be accepted into your first choice.

If you have any questions about your options under the State's Public School Choice Policy, please contact the Grant Parish School Board.

Thank you,

Rebecca Fletcher
Federal Programs Director
Grant Parish School Board
318-627-3274



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School Choice Plan 2019-2020

Act 853 of 2014 provides for the right of a parent or legal guardian to enroll his child in a school other than the school to which the child was scheduled to be enrolled, if the school at which the child was most recently enrolled received a School Performance Score of "D" or "F" in the most recent school year. A receiving school must have received a School Performance Score of "A", "B" or "C" in the most recent school year. Act 853 provides for certain variable eligibility criterion and any enrollment based upon Act 853 will be considered an annual enrollment. It does not obligate the District to allow for enrollment beyond one school year and is based on receiving school's grade-level capacity.

1. The GPSB will notify parents of their school choice options if a school's initial identification for School Improvement 1 or above or Academically Unacceptable Level 1 (AUS1) or above occurs with the fall final accountability release, the school shall offer choice beginning with the following school year.
2. Students will be offered a choice if the receiving schools are eligible to receive students. Parents preferences among choices offered will be considered but not guaranteed.
3. Request applications will be available at the Grant Parish School Board or on the Grant Parish School Board website. Student transfers under the choice option must be submitted to the Federal Programs Director or Superintendent by the established deadline.
4. Choice will be offered to students in an eligible Title I school until the school is no longer identified as Academically Unacceptable (AUS 1).
5. Students exercising the option to transfer to another public school may remain in that school until he or she has completed the highest grade in the school or until the student's school of origin is no longer identified as academically unacceptable or in school improvement. However, transportation will not be provided after the end of the school year in which he student's school of origin is no longer identified for school improvement. Students will not be allowed to transfer to any school that is identified as Academically Unacceptable (AUS 1).
6. If there are no schools to which the students can transfer, parents will be notified that their child's school is identified as Academically Unacceptable (AUS 1) and that the child is eligible for choice although there are no choice options currently available.

7. The Director of Federal Programs or Elementary Supervisor will notify parents of the transfer once a decision has been determined.
8. Receiving schools will provide equal educational opportunities for all students eligible to transfer, included students with disabilities and English Language Learners.
9. Ineligibility:
 - A. Enrollment: A student meeting any of the following will be ineligible to enroll as an Act 853 student:
 - a. The student was expelled for disciplinary reasons in the current or preceding school year;
 - b. The student was suspended more than once in the current or preceding school year;
 - c. The student was involved in more than one fight or other act of violence on school grounds or at a school sponsored event in the preceding school year;
 - d. The student was found in possession of any illicit drug or narcotic on school grounds in the current or preceding school year;
 - e. The student had more than 10 unexcused absences during the current or preceding school year.
 - B. Post Enrollment: A student shall be ineligible to continue enrollment as an Act 853 student if any of the following apply:
 - a. The student is suspended more than once during the school year;
 - b. The student is expelled for disciplinary reasons during the school year;
 - c. The student is involved in more than one fight or other act of violence on school grounds during the school year;
 - d. The student is found in possession of any illicit drug or narcotic on school grounds during the school year;
 - e. The student has more than 10 unexcused absences or excessive late check-ins or early check-outs during the school year.
10. All new enrollees to a receiving school that are zoned for a school in AUS1 will need to complete an application.

Official Policy: <http://www.gpsb.org/CAPS/GrantCAPS.htm>