



January 11, 2010

Dear Deal Middle School Parents and Families,

Although August is still months away, DC Public Schools is already preparing for your child's next school year! As you know, student achievement is climbing across DCPS, and we are eager for you to continue to be a part of these gains. For this reason, we want to ensure that you have clear information about your school options in DCPS for 2010-2011.

If your child is in 6th or 7th grade at Deal this year:

- In almost all cases, your child has a right to continue attending Deal Middle School next school year.* We encourage you to register your child here when registration opens on April 1.
- If you want your child to attend a different school, you may apply to the DCPS Out-of-Boundary Lottery between January 28 and February 28. For more information, go to www.dcps.dc.gov/oob or visit Deal and ask the school staff to assist you.
- If, at the end of this school year, your school is placed in "School Improvement" status under the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, you will be notified that you may apply for a transfer to a designated NCLB Choice School in DCPS beginning in June. For more information, please contact the Office of School Performance and Restructuring at (202) 442-5055.

If your child is in 8th grade at Deal this year:

Congratulations to your child who will be moving on to high school next year!

- Each student has a neighborhood high school assigned to his/her address. To find out your neighborhood school, go to <http://dcatlas.dcgis.dc.gov/schools/> and enter your address or visit Deal and ask the school staff to assist you.
- In addition, all students who successfully complete 8th grade at Deal -- whether they are in-boundary or out-of-boundary -- have a right to attend Wilson High School. This means that if Wilson High School is not your neighborhood school, you may choose either of these schools for next school year.
- Most specialized high schools are no longer accepting applications for next school year. If you are interested in attending one of these schools and have not yet applied, please speak with your counselor about whether the application process is still open at that school. Specialized high schools include Banneker, Duke Ellington, Columbia Heights Education Campus (Bell), McKinley, Phelps, and School Without Walls.
- If you want your child to attend a different school than the option(s) described above, you may apply to the DCPS Out-of-Boundary Lottery between January 28 and February 28. For more information, go to www.dcps.dc.gov/oob or visit Deal and ask the school staff to assist you.

* If you lived in-boundary for Deal at the time of enrollment but now live out-of-boundary, you may either enroll at your new in-boundary school or apply to stay at Deal through the DCPS Out-of-Boundary Lottery. To find out whether you are still in-boundary for Deal, go to <http://dcatlas.dcgis.dc.gov/schools/> and enter your address. For more information on the DCPS Out-of-Boundary Lottery, go to www.dcps.dc.gov/oob or visit Deal and ask the school staff to assist you.

Important information for families of 7th and 8th grade students:

As you research your high school options, we hope you will take advantage of several new ways for you to learn about what's offered at DCPS:

- OPEN HOUSES: You can attend an open house at a school that interests you. A list of open houses is available at www.dcps.dc.gov/openhouses.
- HIGH SCHOOL FAIR: Please see the enclosed flyer for our DCPS High School Fair. The fair will take place on Saturday, January 23rd and all DCPS high schools will host an information booth.
- HIGH SCHOOL CATALOG: At the fair, we will distribute a catalog detailing all of DCPS's High School options. After January 23rd, the catalog will be available at middle schools and K-8s across the city, as well as online at www.dcps.dc.gov.

If you have a child who is turning 3 or 4 years old by September 30, 2010:

If your child is not yet enrolled in DC Public Schools, you should apply to the DCPS Pre-School and Pre-K Lottery between January 28 and February 28. DCPS offers full-day three- and four-year-old programs at over 85 elementary schools across the city. For more information, go to www.dcps.dc.gov/earlychildhood.

Beginning this year, there will no longer be a separate process to apply for Head Start. Head Start-eligible families should apply for pre-school / pre-k through the DCPS Pre-School and Pre-K Lottery; they will be identified for Head Start services during this process.

Questions?

If you have questions about continuing to enroll your child at Deal Middle School or about any of the other options, please call Deal at (202) 939-2010 or visit the school and ask the school staff to assist you.

If you have additional questions, please contact the DCPS Critical Response Team at (202) 478-5738 or by e-mail at enrollmentprocess@dc.gov.

Thank you for choosing DC Public Schools this school year. We have many exciting plans for school year 2010-2011 and hope you will choose to join us again next fall!

Sincerely,



Michelle Rhee
Chancellor

If you require assistance or information in a language other than English, please call the following numbers:

- Chinese: (202) 671-0755
- French: (202) 671-0760
- Spanish: (202) 671-0758 OR (202) 671-0754
- Vietnamese: (202) 671-2280
- Amharic: (202) 671-2654
- Korean: (202) 719-6606

LETTER OF INTENT for SCHOOL YEAR 2010-2011

To better serve our students with the appropriate programs, classes and resources, we ask that families declare by **March 19** where their child(ren) will attend school next school year. In addition to this Letter of Intent, families must still complete the official registration process before enrolling their child(ren) for next year.

1. Complete the form below. **Please complete a separate form for each child who is currently enrolled in DCPS.** Even if you believe your plans may change, please complete the form. The information you provide will be very important for planning purposes. **Note to families of 8th grade students: If you have not submitted your form by March 19, your child will automatically be transitioned to Wilson High School.**
2. Return the completed form by **March 19** to your current school counselor or registrar.
3. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your current school counselor or registrar. You may also contact the DCPS Critical Response Team at (202) 478-5738 or by e-mail at enrollmentprocess@dc.gov for more information.

CHILD'S NAME: _____ CHILD'S DCPS ID# (optional): _____

CURRENT SCHOOL: _____ CURRENT GRADE: _____

PLANS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2010-2011:

Options for 6th or 7th grade students (check one):

- I plan for my child to return to Deal Middle School.
- I plan for my child to attend a different DCPS school than the option above.
- I plan for my child to attend a non-DCPS school.

Options for 8th grade students (check one):

- I plan for my child to attend his/her neighborhood high school:
(please indicate school name) _____
- I plan for my child to attend Wilson High School.
- I plan for my child to attend a different DCPS school than the option(s) above:
(please indicate school name) _____
- I plan for my child to attend a non-DCPS school.

Note to families of 8th grade students: If your high school plans change after you return this form, please inform your current school counselor or registrar immediately.

If you have an additional child who is turning 3 or 4 years old by September 30 and is not currently enrolled in DCPS, please check one:

- I plan to apply for a pre-school or pre-k seat at a DCPS school through the DCPS Pre-School and Pre-K Lottery between January 28 and February 28.
- I plan to send my child to a non-DCPS school.
- I do not plan to send my child to school next year.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____