

Boundary Phase-In Policies – FAQ

How will attendance zone changes affect my children?

For students currently attending their zoned (in boundary) DCPS school:

- If your address was reassigned into a different school's attendance zone, your child has the right to continue at their current school AND, starting in school year (SY) 2015-16, will also have the right to attend the new school to which your address has been reassigned. If you decide to enroll in your newly assigned school, then you give up your right to attend your current school and would need to apply through the out-of-boundary process if you want to reenroll.

EXAMPLE: If your address was reassigned from Stanton ES to Garfield ES, your child has the right to stay at Stanton ES through 5th grade OR you may send him/her to Garfield ES starting in SY2015-16 and give up your right to attend Stanton ES.

- If your address was reassigned into a different school's attendance zone, the sibling of the child attending the currently zoned school may EITHER attend the currently zoned school as long as they have a sibling enrolled at the school at the time of their entry OR attend the newly assigned school.

EXAMPLE: The Smith family lives in the Stanton ES zone, and they have two children – Claudia and Jennifer. Their address was reassigned from the Stanton ES zone to the Garfield ES zone. Claudia attends 2nd grade at Stanton ES and Jennifer is 2 years old and has not started public school yet. Starting in SY2015-16, Jennifer (the 2 year old) will have the right to attend Stanton ES, as long as Claudia is still enrolled at Stanton ES. Both Claudia and Jennifer also have the right to attend Garfield.

For students currently attending a DCPS school that is NOT their zoned school:

- Your child has the right to continue attending his/her current out-of-boundary DCPS school through the final grade level offered by the school AND, starting in SY 2015-16, will also have the right to attend the newly assigned DCPS school.

For students NOT currently attending a DCPS school and who DO NOT have a sibling in a DCPS school:

- Starting in SY 2015-16, your child will have the right to attend only the newly assigned DCPS school.

EXAMPLE: The Jones family lives in the Tubman ES zone, and their only child, Cecilia, currently attends a public charter elementary school. Their address was reassigned from the Tubman ES zone to the H.D. Cooke ES zone. Starting in SY 2015-16, Cecilia's school of right will be H.D. Cooke ES, not Tubman ES.

How will changes to the feeder pathways affect my children?

- If your zoned elementary school is being re-assigned to a new middle or high school feeder school, starting in SY15-16:
 - All students transitioning to 6th or 9th grade in SY2015-16, SY2016-17, SY2017-18 will have the right to attend their current (SY14-15) feeder pathway OR the newly designated next-level school in the geographic feeder pathway.
 - All students transitioning to 6th or 9th grade in SY2018-19 and beyond will have the right to attend their newly designated next-level school in the feeder pathway, unless they have a sibling enrolled in their next-level school in their current (SY14-15) feeder pathway at the time of transition.

EXAMPLE: In SY 2015-16, Johnnie is a 4th grader at Eaton ES, which has been reassigned to feed into Hardy MS, rather than into Deal MS. Johnnie's sister, Jane, is in 2nd grade in SY1015-16. Johnnie is expected to complete 5th grade at Eaton ES in June 2017, and he will have the right to attend either Deal or Hardy. Jane is expected to complete 5th grade in June 2019. If Johnnie is still enrolled in Deal in SY2019-20 when Jane is ready to start middle school, Jane will also have the right to attend either Deal or Hardy.

- If your newly designated DCPS zoned school is a school that is not yet open, your child will retain his/her current zone rights and feeder-pathway rights only until the new school opens.

EXAMPLE: Families re-assigned to the new MacFarland MS will continue to have rights to the middle school or PK-8 school assigned to their address until MacFarland MS opens. Once MacFarland MS opens, these families will only have a geographic right to attend MacFarland MS.