

**Let us know if you have other suggestions or ideas on the revisions to the Enrollment and Transfer**

<p>I think this policy should be adjusted along with re-defining neighborhood elementary boundaries. Otherwise schools such as Oakridge may become impossibly overcrowded until redistricting is completed.</p>
<p>Transpiration needs work: Can there be a means test for transport to option schools? Also, why not communicate bus schedules/routes which (despite the party line) haven't changed much year over year. THEN ask parents whether they plan to put their child on a bus. I bet you'd find you could actually make the busses more efficient. And for the child transferring to a nearby neighborhood school - let them meet the bus stop nearest them and join in. HS students should have ART bus routes avail</p>
<p>How will existing neighborhood boundaries and enrollment be adjusted to accommodate the changes?</p>
<p>APS needs to seriously consider changing the Arlington Science Focus boundaries if they plan to end the guaranteed admission to Key. Key currently has about 280 kids who enter through the guaranteed admission and would go to ASD. A few might get into Key through the lottery, but about 46 additional kids per grade that would go to ASF (instead of Key). The average number of kindergartens in ASF is 20.51, that adds more than two kindergarten classes to ASF in Fall 2018. That seems unworkable.</p>
<p>I worry about the Key "neighborhood" Spanish speakers who are not the families who get forms completed on time. It will take a major effort to communicate with them the need to apply for the lottery. Key has an amazing PTA/parental support for the 44.5% of the children on F/R lunch. The assignment of two of our feeder neighborhoods to CIS raises concerns that we will lose the "resources" those neighborhoods currently provide Key. This change could lower the 35% white families.</p>
<p>This is really tough for those of us who have already purchased expensive homes in certain areas thinking that we would be given preference for schools. How is the school system answering to those families? Also, what responses to this survey have been collected from families who do not speak either English or Spanish (as that is the bulk of my impacted neighborhood)?</p>
<p>Please be more specific about how you will handle Science Focus students under this proposal. If I could figure that out now I would have more to say.</p>
<p>Preschool admission needs to be addressed and improved upon. Right now, Jamestown has 45 seats for preschool montessori, but McK only has 15, 2/3 of which are taken by low income families. That leaves very few spots for most McK families that would like a county option for preschool.</p>
<p>The policy should include specific waivers for transfers from any neighborhood school that does not make AYP.</p>
<p>Our two oldest are attending Claremont Immersion. Our youngest is six years younger, which means he won't qualify for the current sibling preference and may not be able to attend a Spanish immersion program. This would create a significant gap between the siblings. It seems wise policy to let all sibling attend the school attended by older siblings, even if those siblings have moved on. This helps create deep investment in the school over time in those families and fosters strong family bonds</p>
<p>Please keep the children already in their schools at current schools. I have a 1st grader in Science Focus and the school is right behind my house, though Taylor is my home school. I hope this change does not affect current students who are already at ASFS who lotteried into the school. Also, ASFS is a unique school and though it may have started as a neighborhood school (ie as a choice for those students who did not want to go to KEY) why cant ASFS also be a county wide Lottery school?</p>
<p>ASFS is an amazing school which I believe have a very unique type of learning and philosophy. It is one of the most diverse schools in the county, based on both cultural and socioeconomics and the parent community is amazing and is truly involved with the school. I have personally donated much of my time and money towards this wonderful school, and I believe it should be an choice option school, open to county wide lottery(similar to ATS). I don't think it should just be a neighborhood scho</p>

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Need to look at the rules for Science Focus separate. Current students from the Team areas should be grandfathered. All siblings should be grandfathered. Busing should continue. A walk-zone should be included. Students should be able to move to the Taylor and Jamestown districts and be able to stay at Science Focus due to the unique housing characteristics of the Key/Science Focus area, otherwise the school will become very transient and will be hard to maintain a support for the school.

All students currently enrolled in Transfer School (including lottery students) and siblings should be grandfathered in and allowed to continue at current school

Particularly for non-Spanish dominant kids, immersion requires family commitment. Families just "trying out" immersion for 1 yr simply b/c they happened to get a spot can have a lasting impact on the program. If families decide to drop out after K, which will be more like in the "everyone in lottery" model, there may not be enough children to maintain the program & more importantly since kids can't enter immersion after K without testing in it will likely skew the 50-50 balance.

The procedure for updating/changing a PIP needs to be disseminated. Policies have a standing, defined process for changes. What is the analogous process for changing a PIP? Is a SB vote necessary or is it a "courtesy"? How much/little civic notice and engagement is expected for PIP changes? This is a critical missing piece.

Under the proposal, all elementary schools have a curriculum focus/approach (ATS is traditional; neighborhood schools will be STEAM, etc)...EXCEPT Key and Claremont. STEAM, IB, or any other curriculum can be taught in English AND Spanish. (Washington International School is an example of an IB curriculum in a dual-immersion setting.)

I feel very strongly that all students currently attending any APS school should be permitted to stay at that school, and that any siblings not already enrolled should be permitted to enroll there with their sibling already attending. I also feel very strongly that the areas zoned for Science Focus should remain guaranteed admission to Science Focus going forward.

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Option schools should be converted to neighborhood schools. They get too many resources, aren't as crowded, aren't as diverse. Make every school great, not just a few. Would also cut into transportation issues.

Please ensure that VPI students at option schools have automatic admission to kindergarten. The last thing these kids and families need is unnecessary disruption in their lives. They should have guaranteed admission to the school they attend as VPI if they want it (just like siblings). Also, make sure Campbell Elementary remains as an option program. The EL model is fantastic and should be available countywide in a fair and equitable manner (i.e., same admission policy as ATS).

The option schools are just that -OPTIONS. They should not be marketed as guaranteed to any population (except the VPI students in that school).

Sibling preference should be a preference, not a guarantee

CAP ENROLLMENT in the immersion schools. and maintain a 50/50 mix of english and spanish dominant students at enrollment.

1. It's high time for more accountability on APS's part. What are some of the outcomes of the options schools vs neighborhood schools overall and for specific demographic groups? Kids are tested, but not the programs right now. 2. Don't split immersion at the secondary level as there's insufficient capacity for that. All HS at one HS, all MS at one MS. Move immersion MS to TJ or someplace more central than Gunston.

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- For transfers into neighborhood schools, give priority to a child who already attends that school. For instance, if child attends Jamestown and his family moves out that district and wants to transfer him back in, he should have priority over a completely new student. This will minimize disruption to both the student and the schools, as JES already knows this student.  
- Do not make transfers to neighborhood schools reapply every year. They should get to stay.

Why can't immersion schools have a STEAM focus - those subject areas can be taught in both areas. Has there been any thought to having the immersion middle school in a more central location (Kenmore, TJ) - would this keep more students in the program because of the central location, cutting down on longer commutes? Finally, the immersion schools should have a coordinator to oversee the program, including recruitment of qualified teaching candidates.

Please give Key Zone a regular neighborhood in-zone elementary school.

Since ATS and HB have such different educational philosophies, students who attend ATS through 5th grade should not be allowed to enter the HB lottery.

Families like ours moved to the ASFS/Key boundary zone because we specifically wanted our children to attend ASFS (or Key). It would be extremely unfair for children currently living in that zone to not be able to attend ASFS (or Key) as their families had intended, particularly for those families where one child is already enrolled in ASFS (or Key).

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Some Schools in Arlington are thriving because of the community and the efforts of parents. APS needs to recognize that.

There are a number of families who do not pre-register for elementary school and show up on or around the first day. They are guaranteed a spot at Key, their neighborhood school, and Key is equipped to handle them. Any lottery system should include planning - probably through targeted outreach or by allowing Claremont and Key to hold places open - to give these families priority. It would be a loss for the immersion schools not to have these Spanish-speaking families in the program, and a loss f

Please clarify that the East/West zone is only a concept and more work would be needed to fully flush out those details. The line is not set in stone at the moment! Also please consider offering examples of situations which would call for the addition or removal of an option school, or instructional focus at a neighborhood school, due to excessive, or lack of demand.