



HOPE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Elementary School Assignment FAQs

On January 19, 2023, the Durham Public Schools Board of Education approved rules of access for elementary schools as the district implements a regional school assignment model and new school boundaries. The regional model and new school boundaries will increase equity and access to academic programs throughout Durham as well as increase PreK and Exceptional Children's special program classrooms. **These changes do not begin until the 2024-2025 school year.** It is important for all families to review the below information as their child may be impacted. For general questions, email growingtogether@dpsnc.net.

Which students are impacted by the student assignment implementation rules?

Growing Together boundary assignment, lottery assignment and program changes will take place in DPS elementary schools in the 2024-2025 school year. Students who will be grades 4 and 5 in the 2024-2025 school year will not be reassigned to another school. Students placed by approved transfer are not impacted as those assignments are aligned with **BOE Policy #4132**. Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) assigned to a general education classroom will follow the same implementation rules. Students with an IEP assigned to an Exceptional Children's special program (separate setting/self-contained) are assigned by the EC Department and are not impacted by the implementation rules.

How does the new regional access model work for application schools?

Beginning the 2024-2025 school year, DPS will offer equitable access to application program options for elementary schools in five regions throughout the county. The number of application seats available will more than double, providing greater access for families who wish to apply. Application programs, often called magnet programs, may follow a different school calendar or provide an instructional program that may be a better fit for your child. Below are the options available in each region.

Northern	Central	Eastern	Southwest	Southeast
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IB: EK Powe• Montessori: Little River• DLI: Holt• Year-Round: Easley or WG Pearson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IB: EK Powe• Montessori: Watts• DLI: Club• Year-Round: Eastway or WG Pearson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IB: EK Powe• Montessori: Little River• DLI: Merrick-Moore• Year-Round: Oak Grove or WG Pearson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IB: Burton• Montessori: Morehead• DLI: Southwest• Year-Round: Hope Valley or WG Pearson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IB: Burton• Montessori: Watts• DLI: Lyons Farm• Year-Round: Pearsontown or WG Pearson

Families will be able to apply to the application school options serving their region in the 2024 lottery.

How do I know if my child is impacted?

Using the tool located here: <https://tinyurl.com/GT24-25>, you can find out your assigned base school for the 2024-2025 school year. Click the search icon and type in your address. If you reside in the new base zone for your current school, your child will continue at your current school. If your new base school is different, please see the questions below.

How is my current school impacted by the school assignment changes?

Your current school will transition to a year-round calendar starting the 2024-2025 school year. Students who reside in the region may access the school through the lottery if they do not reside in the school boundary.

What is the difference between a boundary and region?

Boundary, sometimes called base, refers to the geographic area in which students are automatically assigned to a nearby school based on their home address. A region, which includes several boundaries, is a larger geographic area that defines student eligibility for application programs. **Residing in a region does not grant assignment to regional application programs, only residing in the boundary does.** Residing in a region grants access to application programs through the lottery.

I would prefer for my student to continue attending their current school with the transition to the year-round calendar. What options do I have?

Students who are in grades 2, 3, 4, and 5 currently (2022-2023 school year) will be able to complete their elementary school years at their current school. Students who will be in grades 4 and 5 in the 2024-2025 school year will be provided legacy status. This means your child will complete their elementary school years at their current school. Please note that the school will operate on a year-round calendar.

Students in grades K-3 in the 2024-2025 school year who do not reside in the new boundary but do reside in the region served by the school may apply for a lottery-assigned placement. If they have a sibling attending in grade 4 or 5, they also have access to a sibling priority. Please note that the school will operate on a year-round calendar.

Students in grades K-3 with a sibling attending in grades 4 or 5 with legacy status may apply to remain at the school through the school transfer process. If the school has capacity, younger siblings will remain at the school until the older sibling(s) leave the school. At the end of that 1- or 2-year period, younger siblings either may attend their boundary school or enter the lottery for their regional year-round option to continue on the year-round calendar.

Families always have the opportunity to complete a hardship transfer request. Transfers are considered on an individual basis and based on documented extenuating circumstances affecting the family. More information can be found here: <https://www.dpsnc.net/transfers>.

I do not think the year-round calendar will work for my family. What options do I have?

If you reside in the boundary for a year-round school and you do not wish to be on the year-round calendar, you may request to opt-out. Through the opt-out process, the Office of Student Assignment will provide you with traditional calendar options for your child based on proximity to your home and capacity of the school.

A lot more DPS elementary students will be on the year-round calendar in the future. Will there be enough childcare options for families?

DPS is working with its community partners to increase intersession programming opportunities including those that provide free or low-cost options to qualifying families.

Why do families choose year-round? Where can I learn more?

Students on the year-round calendar begin school in July and attend school for nine weeks, followed by a three-week break. Some families find this schedule beneficial. More information can be found here: <https://www.dpsnc.net/Page/6610>.