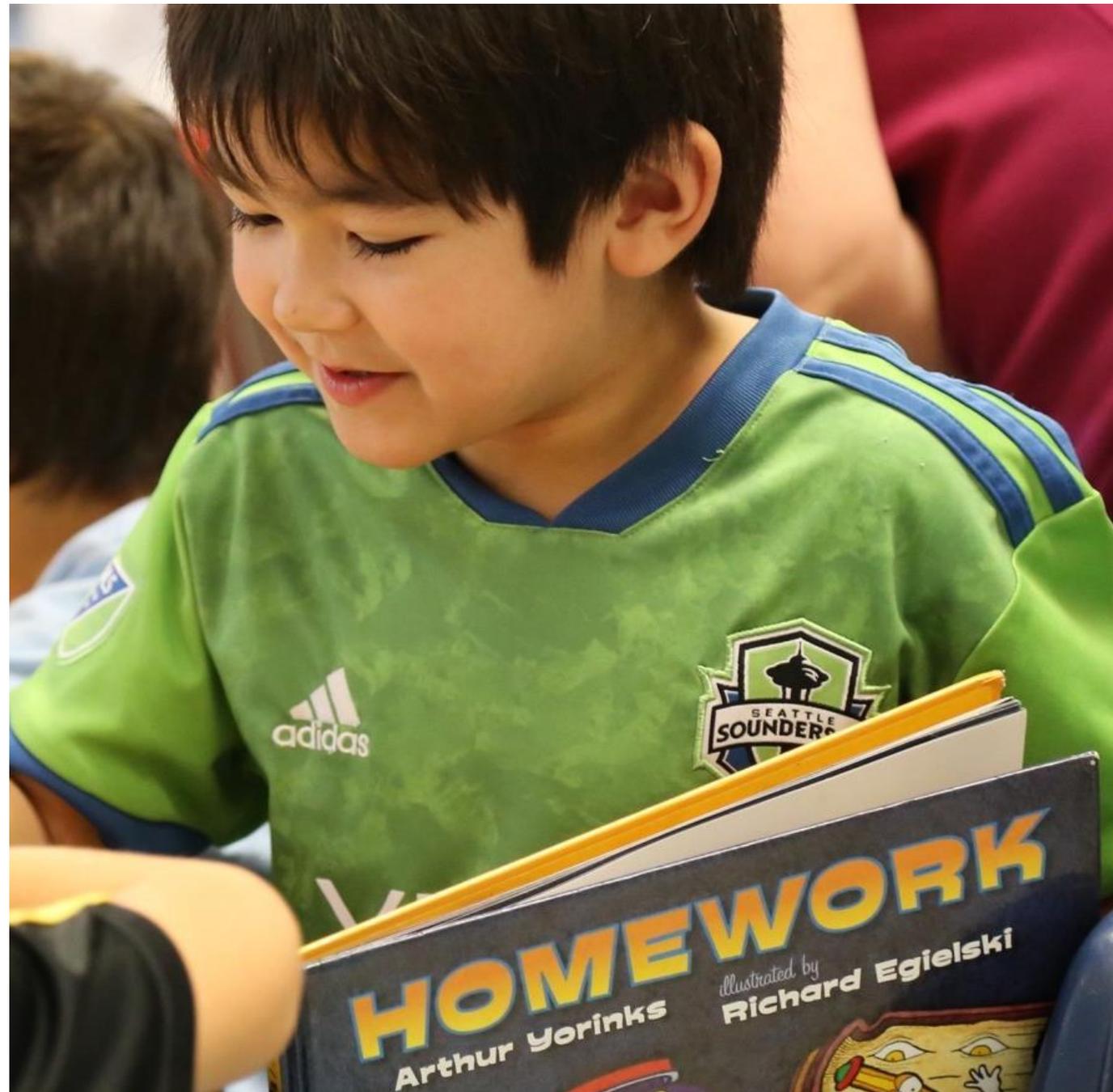


Welcome & Introductions

Agenda

- Neighborhood Vs Option Schools
- New Student Registration Process
- What's new for 2026-27
- School Choice Process
- Late Applications
- HCC, DLI Pathways
- EEU Preschool Lottery
- Things to Know
- Q&A



Neighborhood vs. Option School Assignments

Neighborhood Schools



Enrollment to your neighborhood school is guaranteed based on home address.

[Address Look Up Tool](#)



Upon enrollment to SPS, this is your default school.

*Students identified with special service needs may have a designated assignment based on residence.

[Linked School Chart](#)

An Option School is not a neighborhood school.

- Enrollment to an Option school is not automatic based on home address.
- Students must apply during Open Enrollment to be considered for priority. Living within the geo-zone, will rank higher after sibling priority.
- If you do not apply, your student will be assigned to their neighborhood school.



Required Enrollment Documents

- **Student's Birth Certificate** (for preschool, kindergarten and first grade only): birth certificate, hospital records, passport
- **Photo ID of the parent/guardian** completing the registration: WA State Driver's License or passport
- **Two Address Verification documents:** Current utility, lease or mortgage bill
- **Immunization Records:** Students must be in compliance with the current Washington State immunization laws

For students **who meet the definition of homeless, the district will enroll immediately. The district will not require proof of residency or any other information regarding an address for any student **who is eligible**.*

2026-27 New Registration & Open Enrollment

- **Registration To SPS Begins January 5**
- **Open Enrollment School Choice: January 5 – 31**
 - Early applications receive priority
 - Late applications accepted: **Feb 1 - March 31**, no priority consideration.
- **Open Enrollment Results: February 24**
- **Waitlist dissolves: May 31**



New Student Registration & School Choice Process

1

Enroll online at
www.seattleschools.org/enroll

Questions?

Contact Enrollment at
admissions@seattleschools.org or call
(206) 252-0760.

2

Complete the 2026-27 School Choice form in the registration application, if applicable.

Complete enrollment registration by January 31 for priority consideration.

3

Receive neighborhood school assignment letter for next school year!

Open Enrollment results will be available February 24, 2026.



School Choice Form within Registration

English (United States)  

Seattle Public School - School Choice Form (DRAFT)

* Required

Student Information

1. Student First Name * 

2. Student Last Name * 

3. Student's Birthdate * 

4. What grade will your student be in during the 2026-27 school year? * 

[Back](#) [Next](#)

Current Students – School Choice Process

1

Review the school choice process on our [enrollment webpage](#)

2

Apply online through [The Source](#)

School Choice forms are available in the top five languages: Amharic, Chinese, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese on the school choice webpage.

3

Open Enrollment Results will be available **February 24, 2026**



The Source

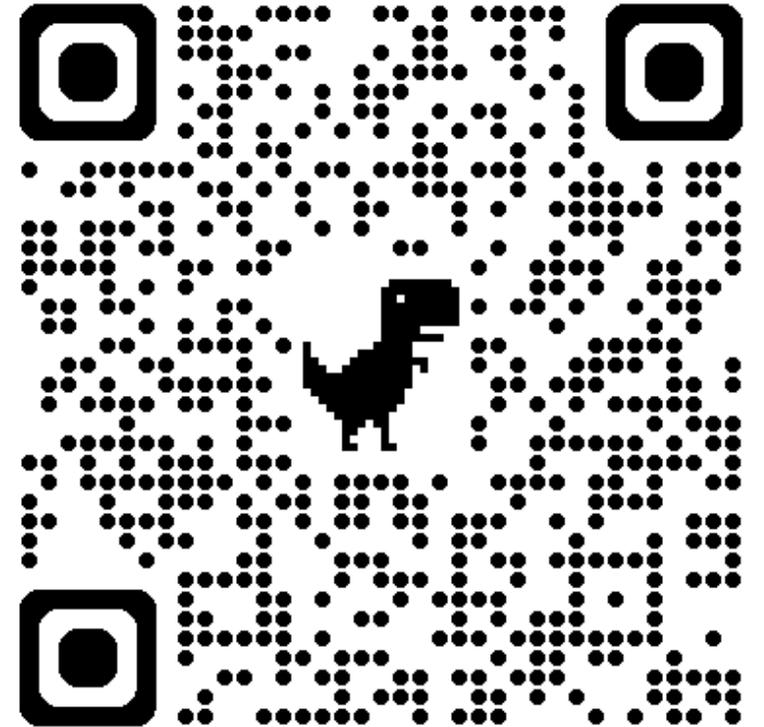
To setup a Parent/Guardian Source account:

You must **be a parent or guardian** of a student currently attending Seattle Public Schools.

Your **valid email address** must be on record for each SPS student.

Parent and guardian Source accounts display attendance, assessment scores, Elementary Progress Reports, Secondary Performance Reports, secondary student assignment scores, SchoolPay, Schoology Access Codes and other information.

Technical Support: sourcesupport@seattleschools.org



School Choice: Tiebreakers

Tiebreakers applies for on-time applicant only:

- **Sibling:** Students receive highest priority for assignment if they have a sibling attending for the current and following school year that choice school they are applying to.
- **Geo-zone** (for option schools only): Option schools have “geo-zones.” These geo-zones are a specific designated geographic area in close proximity to the Option school. Students living in these geo-zones receive higher priority after sibling. [This map shows the geo-zones.](#)
- **Feeder School** (if applicable): applies when a student is attending an elementary school outside of the attendance area of their assigned middle school. The tiebreaker is applied for the middle school which would be the feeder of the school they are attending.
- **A Lottery Number** is the final tiebreaker; a random number between 01 and 99,999 generated for each student participant in school choice. The lower the number, the higher the ranking of the student for placement.

Late Applications

Late application window: Feb 1 – March 31

Applications received after during this period:

- Are still accepted
- Do **not** receive priority consideration
- Are placed *after* on-time applicants in the lottery; this includes requests for Dual Language Immersion and Highly Capable Pathway schools.

Highly Capable Services – An accelerated program designed to meet needs of students who demonstrate exceptional academic ability.

Newly identified HC students are subject to the HC timeline:

February 7- Newly identified families receive eligibility and placement via The Source

February 23- Newly identified families submit school choice via the HC department

Highly Capable (HCC) Pathway Schools

Elementary:

Thurgood Marshall, Decatur, Cascadia

Middle:

Washington, Eagle Staff, Hamilton, Madison

High School:

Garfield, Lincoln, West Seattle



Dual Language Immersion Pathways

John Stanford, McDonald Elementary > Hamilton Middle > Lincoln High

Beacon Hill, Dearborn Park Elementary > Mercer Middle > Rainier Beach High

Concord Elementary > Denny Middle > Chief Sealth High

Native Speaker applicants' set-aside for Dual Language Immersion Option Schools is defined as a student whose first language (or one of their first languages) is the target language (only applies to McDonald & John Stanford International schools)

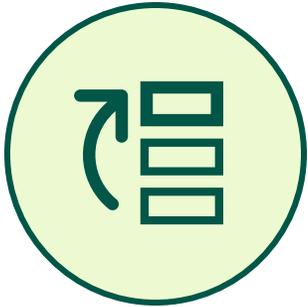


Lottery for Experimental Education Unit (EEU) Preschool

- EEU at University of Washington: <https://eeuschool.org/>
- EEU Open Enrollment: **January 5 – 31**
 - Eligibility: students turning 3 years old by May 31 and have or will have a completed Individualized Educational Program by May 31; priority given to students with current IEP. *Designated seats for Development Preschool and SPP Plus students per their IEP.*
 - Early applications receives priority
 - Late applications accepted: **Feb 1-May 31**, no priority consideration
- Open Enrollment Results: **June 1**
- Waitlists remain active and **managed by the Early Learning Department** after June 1



Things To Know...



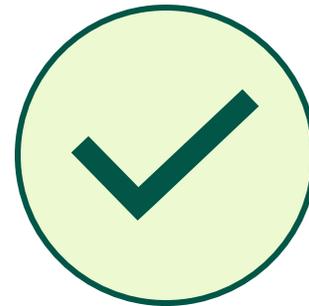
Sibling and Geo-zone priority is only available during Open Enrollment and does not apply after January 31.



Each student must submit their own School Choice application through the enrollment system, including siblings.



If you don't apply or aren't accepted to your choice, your student will be automatically assigned to their neighborhood school based on your home address.



Waitlisted students who receive an offer must confirm their enrollment within 48 hours by email or phone.

Note: After a choice assignment has been awarded, any future change goes through transfer appeal and is subject to availability. This includes return to the neighborhood school.



Common Questions From Previous Session

- Where can I find out about school tours?
- How is the enrollment fairs different from these information sessions?
- How can I find out more about Highly Capable testing & eligibility?
- If I just want to attend my neighborhood school, do I need to participate in school choice?
- If I am awarded a choice seat, can I change my mind and return to my neighborhood school?
- Will my child automatically transition into kindergarten if they are attending preschool?

Useful Links

Student Assignment Transition Plan:

<https://www.seattleschools.org/enroll/find-your-school/school-assignment/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/SATP-Final-ADA-NewCover.pdf>

Superintendent Procedures for Student Assignment 3130SP:

<https://www.seattleschools.org/about/school-board/policies/3130sp-student-assignment/>

Highly Capable Department:

<https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/highly-capable/identification-and-eligibility/>

Early Learning Department:

<https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/early-learning/>



Submit Your Questions To Us!



2445 3rd Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98134, 206-252-0760 (Monday - Friday 9am – 4pm)