Prince George’s County Public Schools offers alternative means within the existing public school system to provide innovative learning opportunities and creative approaches to fulfill educational objectives for students.

Specialty programs provide a range of unique learning subjects, activities and/or learning opportunities as an enhancement of choice for our community. Specialty program choices include Creative and Performing Arts, French Immersion, Dual Language/Spanish Immersion, Montessori and Talented and Gifted (TAG) Center Programs. Enrollment in Specialty Program Schools is open to all students who are residents of Prince George’s County. Placements to the TAG Program require that the student has been identified as TAG eligible.

Specialty Programs have specific boundaries. School assignment through lottery is based upon a student’s home address.

Space limitations require that admission to the program/school be governed by a random placement lottery. Lottery placement provides the strongest guarantee of equity in access. Guidelines for placements are given in Administrative Procedure 6148.

The computerized lottery system will assign a random number to each application. Applications are sorted based on this randomly assigned number and assigned a sequential number within each program location and grade. Applications are then sorted by program and grade. The lowest random number within each program location and grade gets number one, the next lowest number two, and so forth. Program/school assignments are based upon space availability.

Availability differs by grade level and Specialty Program. All applications are given a waiting list number based on their Specialty Program choice, grade level and sequence number. Openings are limited in all Specialty Programs Schools.

Submission of an application is not a guarantee of placement. The online application form permits multiple Specialty Program choices per student. If more than one Specialty Program choice is selected, each choice will be treated equally and placement will be made according to the first available opening. Placement is granted for one Specialty Program choice only. Once placement is accepted, the other selections are no longer an option, and the student is removed from all other wait lists.

The lottery will be held at the end of March. Announcement of student selection will not be made at that time. Students selected through the lottery will be notified electronically. Assignments will be made from the waiting list through September 30. Waiting lists will not carry over to the following school year.
Lottery Brochure

Application/Selection/ Notification Process

1. Students must be county residents and have a valid Student Identification (ID) Number in order to complete the online lottery application. Applications will not be processed without this number.

   Follow the instructions below to obtain the Student ID Number:

   • **For students CURRENTLY attending**
     Prince George's County Public Schools:
     - Locate the student number on your child’s report card, or go to your child’s current school and obtain the Student ID Number from the Registrar.

   • **For students NEW to the school system:**
     - Parents and/or legal guardians may obtain a Student ID Number by going to their attendance boundary school with the following documents: original proof of residence and original birth certificate. Inform the Registrar that you need a Student ID Number to complete the lottery application.

   • **FORMER students who are no longer attending or already have an ID number:**
     - Parent or legal guardian should make sure their address and contact information is up to date by going to their boundary school and providing new proof of residency.

2. When completing an application, it is important to complete every section; failure to do so may hinder the processing of your application.

3. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on March 12.

4. The lottery drawing will be held at the end of March.

5. Placement notifications will be mailed to parents beginning the first week of April.

6. A waiting list will be established for those applicants not placed in a Specialty Program via the lottery. The waiting list remains active until September 30, at which time it expires.

7. Once a student is enrolled in a Specialty Program School, that student will not have to compete for his/her seat through the lottery for that program school again if he/she remains enrolled.
CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
The Creative and Performing Arts program is designed to develop the interests and talents of students in the arts and enhance the academic discipline through an interdisciplinary approach stressing creativity, artistic expression and culture.

The enhanced disciplinary academic program encourages creative and artistic expression, as well as self-discipline, focus and critical thinking skills.

Experiences and training are designed to challenge, develop artistic skills and 21st century skills for all students, as well as to provide exceptional opportunities for the artistically-talented child.

NOTE: Kindergarten through 5th grade students enter by the lottery process. Students in 6th – 8th grades enter the program through audition, requiring a different application.

Questions regarding the Creative and Performing Arts Program audition process and application should be directed to the Creative Arts Programs Office at 301-808-8317.

FRENCH IMMERSION
The French Immersion Program is a full immersion model where all academic subjects are taught in the French language in Kindergarten – 8th grade. The 9th – 12th continuation is at Central High School.

French-speaking teachers immerse students completely in French as they learn the Prince George’s County Public Schools curriculum in Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts. English Reading/Language Arts instruction begins in 2nd grade.

French Immersion students meet the prerequisites to apply to the high school International Baccalaureate Program.

NOTE: Lottery admission is limited to students entering Kindergarten only. Students must be 5 years of age by September 1 to enter Kindergarten.

Questions regarding curriculum and instruction in the French Immersion program should be directed to the Immersion Programs Office at 301-808-5956. Students entering upper grades that are interested in available seats should contact the Department of Pupil Accounting at 301-952-6300 before May 15.

MONTESSORI
Montessori schools provide an interdisciplinary, discovery-based approach to learning presented in multi-age learning environments designed to meet the needs of the child at each stage of development.

Primary students, ages 3 to 6, are guided in developing coordination, concentration, a sense of order and independence.

Elementary students, ages 6 to 12, learn through interdisciplinary, hands-on activities.

Middle school students pursue rigorous studies in all core courses and experiences designed to help them delve into the interconnections of ideas and events.
Specialty Programs (cont.)

**NOTE:** Entry is limited to preschool students who will be age 3 or 4 by September 1. Students in Kindergarten – 8th grade may apply only if they are currently enrolled in a full-day certified Montessori school.

Preschool students do not begin the first day of school, but are gradually introduced to the program during the first few weeks. New 4-year-old students attend half-days for the first two weeks of school and are contacted by the teacher for their special induction day.

The 3-year-old program is a half-day program; no transportation is provided. Four-year-olds who demonstrate the requisite maturity attend the full-day program. Transportation is provided for the 4-year-old program.

Students are accepted on a probationary status for the first eight weeks, beginning with the day they become active participants in the class.

Questions regarding the Montessori program should be directed to 301-808-8240.

**SPANISH IMMERSION**

Language Immersion is an educational approach in which students are taught the curriculum content through the medium of a second language, Spanish. Children learn their entire core subjects (Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science) in Spanish.

Spanish speaking teachers immerse student completely in Spanish as they learn the Prince George’s County Public School’s curriculum. In this way, immersion students not only learn the content, but also gain knowledge of the language in which it is taught.

**NOTE:** Lottery admission is limited to students entering Kindergarten. Students must be 5 years of age by September 1 to enter Kindergarten.

Students entering upper grades that are interested in available seats should contact the Department of Pupil Accounting at 301-952-6300 before May 15.

**SPANISH DUAL LANGUAGE**

Dual Language Education is also known as Two Way Immersion. The Spanish Dual Language Program gives equal emphasis to English and non-English language speakers. Students learn Spanish and English through content based instruction in selected core subjects with a cross cultural understanding for both native and non-native speakers. Students read, write, listen and speak in both languages, becoming bilingual, biliterate and bicultural.

The benefits of bilingualism are numerous, including greater flexibility in thinking, high rates of academic achievement, and cross-cultural learning and communication. Students will be prepared to compete within the context of the Global Society. The model limits 50% of its seats to native speakers. The program is offered to children entering in kindergarten only through the lottery process.

**NOTE:** Lottery admission is limited to students entering Kindergarten. Students must be 5 years of age by September 1 to enter Kindergarten.

Students entering upper grades that are interested in available seats should contact the Department of Pupil Accounting at 301-952-6300 before May 15.

Questions regarding curriculum and instruction in the Spanish Immersion/Dual Language program should be directed to the Immersion Programs Office at 301-808-5956.
TALENTED AND GIFTED
The Talented and Gifted (TAG) Center Program provides TAG-identified students with full-day advanced, enriched, accelerated educational experiences to meet the unique and specialized instructional, social and emotional needs of gifted learners. At this time, PGCPS has 8 elementary TAG Centers and 4 middle school TAG Centers.

NOTE: Students must be TAG-identified in order to participate in the program. If your child is not yet identified as TAG, but is in the process of being screened, you may select TAG on your application. Students must be identified and coded TAG before lottery placement occurs.

For more program information, visit the TAG Programs website at www1.pgcps.org/tag. Contact the Office of Advanced Enriched Instruction at 301-808-3790.

SIBLING APPLICATION AVAILABILITY
For continuing students who gained entry to a Specialty Program through the lottery, Prince George’s County Public Schools provides special consideration for siblings applying to the same program at entry-level. Depending on the Specialty Program, entry-level is defined as Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten or 2nd grade.

Early entry options do not apply to Specialty placements. If parents have children other than entry-level that wish to participate in the Specialty, they must apply through the regular lottery application process.

Siblings who are currently participating in a Specialty Program are not eligible for a sibling placement preference and any acceptance removes options for future sibling placements.

A sibling is a brother or sister by blood, marriage or adoption living in the same household. Friends, cousins or two separate families living under the same roof do not qualify as siblings. The older sibling must continue attending the same Specialty Program for the next school year.

A Specialty Program student who is currently in the 5th or 8th grade in the current school year cannot bring in a sibling, with the exception of 5th grade students enrolled in a K-8 school.

Parents should be aware that application is being made to the program and the school assignment is dependent on the residential address.

There may be an opportunity to attend a program location out of the attendance area if seats in the desired location are still available after all eligible, in-boundary applicants have been considered.

The program location for a given address may change as additional schools are added to the program or program boundaries are re-aligned.

OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS
The following programs require separate applications not related to the lottery placement process and a separate application is required to the program school.

• Center for the Visual and Performing Arts at Suitland and Northwestern High Schools.
• International Baccalaureate Program
• Creative and Performing Arts:
  - Benjamin Foulois, Grades 6–8
  - Hyattsville Middle School, Grades 7–8
  - Thomas Pullen, Grades 6–8

Applications are located online at www1.pgcps.org.
Directory

DEPARTMENT OF PUPIL ACCOUNTING
14201 School Lane, Room 211, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 ................................................................. 301-952-6300

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
Creative Arts Programs ................................................................. 301-808-8317
Benjamin Foulois Academy, 4601 Beauford Road, Suitland, MD 20746 ............................................. 301-817-0300
Hyattsville Middle School, 6001 42nd Avenue, Hyattsville, MD 20781 .................................................. 301-209-5830
Thomas G. Pullen Academy, 700 Brightseat Road, Landover, MD 20786 ............................................. 301-808-8160

FRENCH IMMERSION
Immersion Programs ................................................................. 301-808-5956
Central High School, 200 Cabin Branch Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20743 ........................................ 301-499-7080
Dora Kennedy French Immersion, 8950 Edmonston Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 ............................. 301-918-8660
Maya Angelou French Immersion, 2000 Calloway Street, Temple Hills, MD 20748 ...................... 301-702-3950

SPANISH IMMERSION / DUAL LANGUAGE
Immersion Programs ................................................................. 301-808-5956
Cesar Chavez Elementary School, 6609 Riggs Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782 ...................................... 301-853-5694
Kettering Middle School, 65 Herrington Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 ................................. 301-808-4060
Overlook Elementary School, 3298 Curtis Drive, Temple Hills, MD 20748 .................................. 301-702-3831
Phyllis E. Williams Elementary School, 9601 Prince Place, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 ............. 301-499-3373

MONTESSORI
Montessori .................................................................................. 301-808-8240
John Hanson Montessori, 6360 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745 .............................................. 301-749-4052
Judith Hoyer Montessori, 929 Hill Road, Landover, MD 20786 ...................................................... 301-808-4421
Robert Goddard Montessori, 9850 Good Luck Road, Seabrook, MD 20706 ............................... 301-918-3515

TALENTED AND GIFTED
TAG Programs ........................................................................ 301-808-3790
Accokeek Academy, 14600 Berry Road, Accokeek, MD 20607 ....................................................... 301-203-1140
Benjamin Tasker Middle School, 4901 Collington Road, Bowie, MD 20715 ................................. 301-805-2660
Capitol Heights Elementary School, 601 Suffolk Avenue, Capitol Heights, MD 20743 ............. 301-817-0494
Glenarden Woods Elementary School, 7801 Glenarden Parkway, Glenarden, MD 20706 .......... 301-925-1300
Greenbelt Middle School, 6301 Breezewood Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 .............................. 301-513-5040
Heather Hills Elementary School, 12605 Heming Lane, Bowie, MD 20716 ................................. 301-805-2730
Kenmoor Middle School, 2500 Kenmoor Drive, Landover, MD 20785 ..................................... 301-925-2300
Longfields Elementary School, 3300 Newkirk Avenue, Foresville, MD 20747 .......................... 301-817-0455
Mattaponi Elementary School, 11701 Duley Station Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 ....... 301-599-2442
Valley View Elementary School, 5500 Danby Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD 20745 ............................ 301-749-4350
Walker Mill Middle School, 800 Karen Boulevard, Capitol Heights, MD 20743 ....................... 301-808-4055
Sign up to receive text and email alerts from PGCPS. Look for the red envelope on www1.pgcps.org.