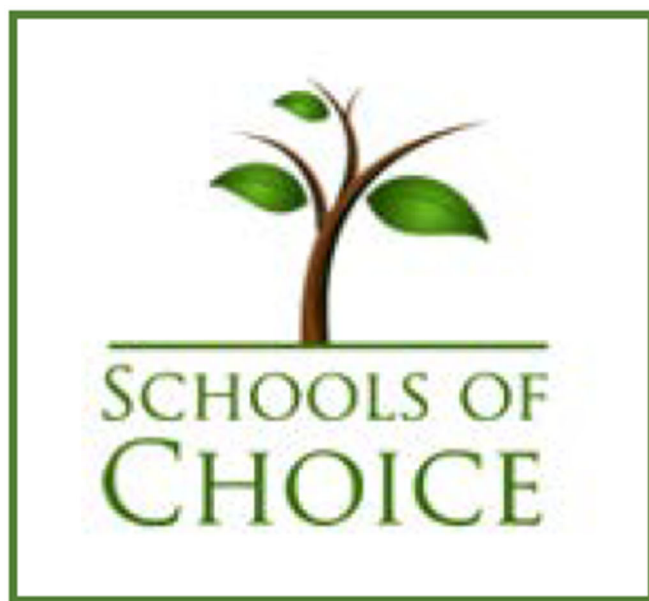


- ✓ *Policies*
- ✓ *Guidelines*
- ✓ *Highlights*

Regarding



- ✓ *Big Rapids Public Schools*
- ✓ *Chippewa Hills School District*
- ✓ *Ewart Public Schools*
- ✓ *Morley Stanwood Community Schools*
- ✓ *Reed City Area Public Schools*

Contacts:

Big Rapids Public Schools..... (231) 796-2627

21034 Fifteen Mile Rd.

Big Rapids, MI 49307

Internet: www.brps.k12.mi.us

Chippewa Hills School District..... (989) 967-2000

3226 Arthur Rd.

Remus, MI 49340

Internet: www.chsd.us

Evart Public Schools (231) 734-5594

P.O. Box 917, 321 N. Hemlock

Evart, MI 49631

Internet: www.evart.k12.mi.us

Morley Stanwood Community Schools... (231) 856-4444

4700 Northland Drive

Morley, MI 49336

Internet: www.morleystanwood.org

Reed City Area Public Schools (231) 832-2201

225 W. Church Avenue, Suite A

Reed City, MI 49677

Internet: www.reedcityschools.org

Big Rapids Public Schools, Chippewa Hills School District,
Evart Public Schools, Morley Stanwood Community Schools,
and Reed City Area Public Schools

Constituent Districts of the

Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District

15760 190th Avenue

Big Rapids, MI 49307

(231) 796-3543 Fax (231) 796-3300

Internet: www.moisd.org

What is SCHOOL CHOICE?

A Closer Look at Schools of Choice

In an effort to provide a quality education for all students in the region, the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District (MOISD) in cooperation with its five constituent districts (Big Rapids Public Schools, Chippewa Hills School District, Ewart School District, Morley Stanwood Community Schools, and Reed City Area Public Schools) is offering a Schools of Choice Program.

MOISD Schools of Choice allows parents and students the choice of attending any public school within the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District boundaries, providing there are room and staff available to accommodate additional students.

Schools of Choice Section 105c allows parents and students who reside in a school district adjacent to the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District boundaries the choice of attending Big Rapids Public Schools, Chippewa Hills School District, Ewart Public Schools, Morley Stanwood Community Schools or Reed City Area Public Schools, providing there are room and staff available to accommodate additional students.

This brochure is designed to help parents learn about Schools of Choice policies and procedures developed to ensure student success.

Information regarding graduation requirements, application policies, athletics, and transportation is included. Please call your local Superintendent's office for specific local details.



What Parents or Guardians Need to Know about Schools of Choice

The application process for Schools of Choice has been designed to provide all applicants a fair and equitable opportunity. Parents or guardians should be aware of the application timelines, length of transfers, and graduation requirements. Listed below are the guidelines regarding the application process.

1. Applications for Schools of Choice can be obtained at the school where the student wishes to attend. The final date for considering applications for the first trimester/semester is the fourth Friday in May, and the final date for considering applications for second trimester/semester is the fourth Friday in October. If there are still openings in specific grades after all students on the waiting list have been offered enrollment, districts may extend the first trimester/semester enrollment until the end of the first week of school and extend second trimester/semester enrollment until the end of the first week of school in the second semester or trimester. Check with your local K-8 district for their schedule regarding schools of choice.

*Big Rapids Public Schools..... (231) 796-2627
21034 Fifteen Mile Rd., Big Rapids, MI 49307*

*Chippewa Hills School District..... (989) 967-2000
3226 Arthur Rd., Remus, MI 49340*

*Evart Public Schools..... (231) 734-5594
P.O. Box 917, 321 N. Hemlock, Evart, MI 49631*

*Morley Stanwood Community Schools..... (231) 823-2069
4700 Northland Drive, Morley, MI 49336*

*Reed City Area Public Schools..... (231) 832-2201
225 W. Church Avenue, Suite A, Reed City, MI 49677*

2. The number of transfers allowed under Schools of Choice is determined by the space available in each participating district and the space available at each building.
3. All participants in Schools of Choice are expected to attend their choice school for the entire school year.
4. Students participating in Schools of Choice who wish to return to their home school for the following year should notify their home school district of their intent to return as soon as possible.
5. Districts will not be required to accept for enrollment, under the terms of this policy, any non-resident student who has been suspended, expelled, or otherwise released or excluded from his/her resident school district due to disciplinary reasons, within two (2) years preceding their application for enrollment.
6. Parents, guardians, and students desiring to participate in Schools of Choice are required to meet with a building administrator or district representative of the choice school to discuss school rules, curriculum, parent involvement, graduation requirements, grade placement, credit transfer, and other school-related issues.
7. Since most high school and middle school class schedules are developed prior to completion of the Schools of Choice application process, students requesting transfers to another school district should be aware not all class requests may be granted. Prior to submitting a Schools of Choice application, it is required that the student and his/her parents or guardians meet with a counselor or school administrator at the school of choice to determine class availability and be informed of prerequisites for each program or course of study in which enrollment is sought. ***No student will be enrolled in a program or course of study that has not met the prerequisites established for the district's students***

What Parents or Guardians Need to Know About Schools of Choice . . .continued

8. There is no guarantee space in the school(s) selected will be available.
9. Requests for specific teachers will not be allowed.
10. The number of openings in a particular program for participating district students will be determined by optimum size for a particular program or classroom, which is the number of students that can be accommodated without increasing district expenditures for staff or equipment.
11. Regulations set forth in Section 105c requires, as a condition to enrolling a student who resides in a district located in a contiguous intermediate school district and who is eligible for special education programs and services, that the enrolling district must enter into a written agreement with the resident district for the purpose of providing the student with a free, appropriate public education and the agreement shall include an agreement on responsibility for payment of the added costs of special education programs and services for the student.
12. Students who transfer will follow the new district's attendance and tardy policy and will be disciplined according to those policies.
13. An application form must be completed for each student wishing to participate in Schools of Choice.

14. If there are more requests for admission for non-resident students than space available, a random selection process will be held to determine which applicants will be accepted. The choice school will coordinate the selection process. Enrollment priority will be given to the sibling or siblings of a non-resident student already admitted to attend the choice district





Graduation/Promotion Requirements and Curriculum Issues

Each district within the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District has developed a curriculum based on the State of Michigan Core Curriculum Model. In addition, each district has its own locally approved grading system and graduation requirements. While there are some similarities of requirements among districts, parents or guardians should be aware of the following conditions of the MOISD Schools of Choice Program:

1. Participants are required to graduate with the number of credits determined by the district they are attending at the time of graduation.
2. All districts will supply, at the request of parents or guardians, a current listing of graduation requirements for the high school they wish to have their child attend. To receive a copy of graduation requirements, parents or guardians should contact the high school principal of the School of Choice.
3. A student approved for transfer to a choice district is allowed to remain in the choice district until his/her class graduates from that school provided the student follows all district rules. **The student does not need to reapply for admission** to the same choice school each year once approved for transfer under Schools of Choice. However, if the student wishes to return to his/her home school, the student should notify the home school district of his/her intent to return as soon as possible.

Transportation Guidelines

Transportation is a key issue in Schools of Choice. **It is the sole responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to transport their child/children to and from the choice school.** The following is a list of the transportation guidelines for Schools of Choice.

- Parents or guardians will be responsible for transporting students to and from the choice school. Students will be expected to arrive at the choice school on time every day.
- Parents or guardians may have the option to drive their child to a pre-approved bus stop in the school district of choice if space is available on the bus. Parents or guardians will assume the responsibility for the safety of the child at the bus stop. Once the child is transported from school to the bus stop, it is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to provide transportation home for the child. Parents or guardians should also be aware that on those rare occasions when school closes early due to weather, etc., it is also their responsibility to provide transportation home for the child.
- Students participating in Schools of Choice, who are eligible to ride a school bus, are required to follow the rules, regulations, and the bus discipline policy of the choice district.



Athletic Policy

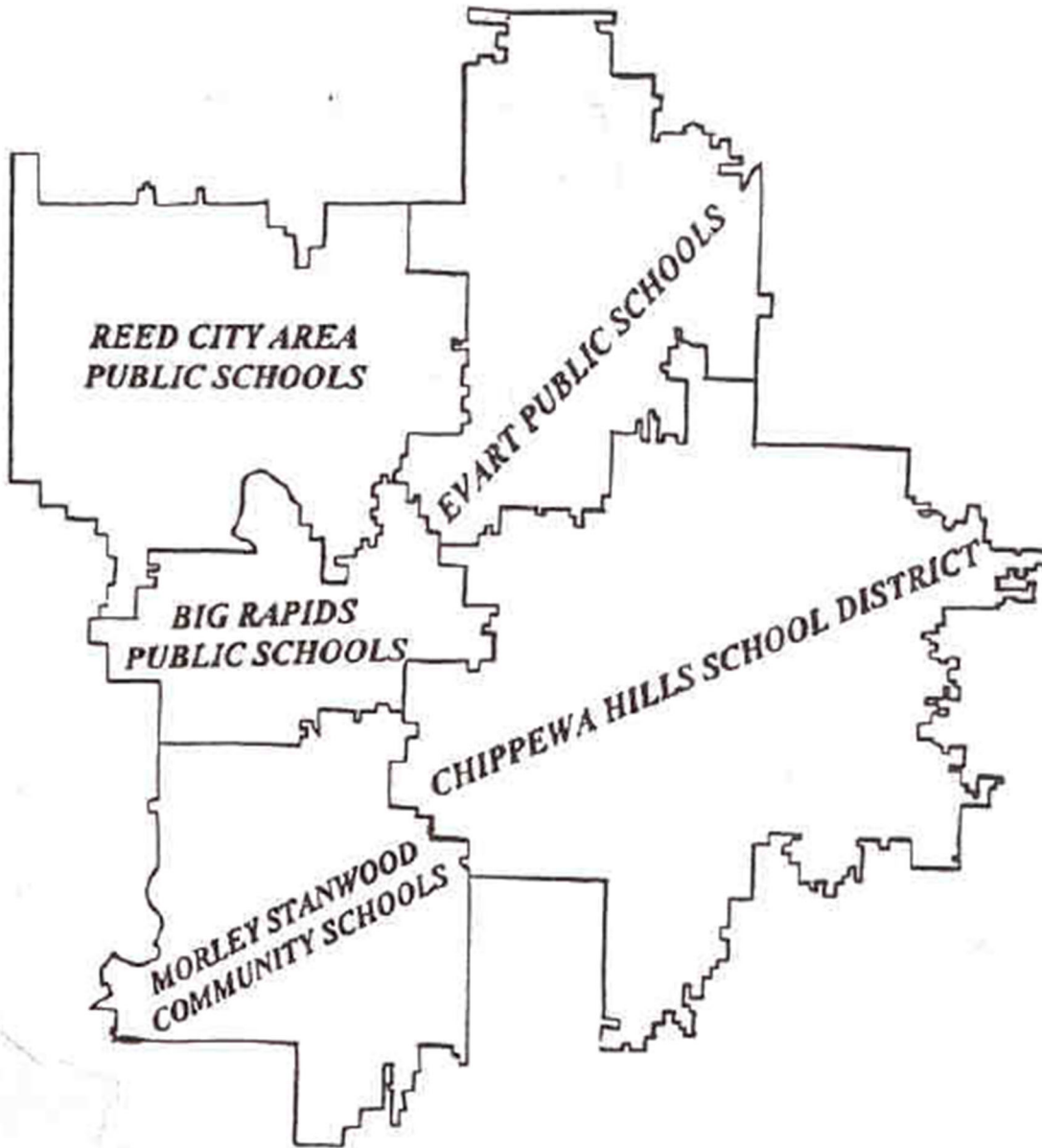
The focus of Schools of Choice is based on academics, not athletics. Therefore, students and parents or guardians should be aware of the following conditions for transferring.

Students will follow the choice district's policies for participation in the school's athletic activities.

Under the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) transfer policy, high school students who transfer by choice from one school to another will not be immediately eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for one full semester, or, in trimester schools, approximately one-half of the school year unless their circumstances conform to one of the 15 stated exceptions. One of the exceptions includes students entering ninth grade for the first time. Prior to enrollment, check with the athletic director of the school where you are transferring.



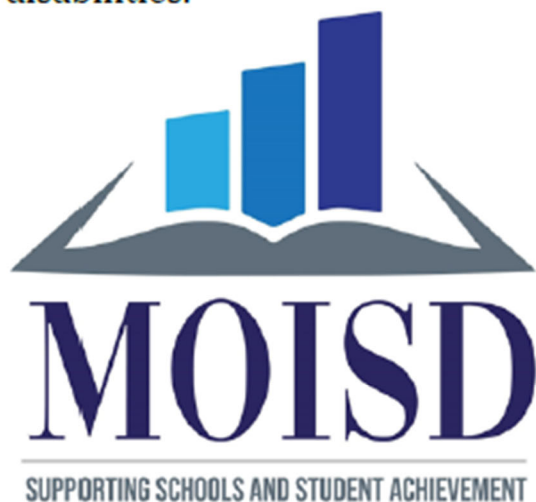
*MOISD Schools of Choice & Schools of Choice
Section 105c Participating Districts:*



The Boards of Education in the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District comply with all federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the United States Department of Education and the Michigan State Department of Education.

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the State of Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, Section 102(a) it is the policy of the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District and its constituent districts that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, gender, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment. Inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to: Assistant Superintendent, Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District, 15760 190th Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307, Telephone (231) 796-3543.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



06/08/2020 pn