

## School Choice

Questions	Answers
<p>How do I learn about the best school choice for my son for next year?</p>	<p>Use the IEP process to determine the needs of your child. If the IEP team determines your child's needs can be met in a community school, work with the student placement department through the lottery process. We recommend attending the school choice fair (February 6, 2016). The school request process is linked here:  <a href="http://schoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us/how_to_request_a_school">http://schoolrequest.mpls.k12.mn.us/how_to_request_a_school</a></p>
<p>What do you think about having designated "Autism Magnet Schools?"</p>	<p>According to Magnet Schools of America, magnet schools are built on the foundation of five pillars and are free public elementary and secondary schools of choice that are operated by school districts or a consortium of districts. Magnet schools have a focused theme and aligned curricula in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), Fine and Performing Arts, International Baccalaureate, International Studies, MicroSociety, Career and Technical Education (CTE), World Languages (immersion and non-immersion) and many others. Diversity is an important element of a magnet school. Since student interest in a theme is the only eligibility criteria to attend a magnet school, students from a wide array of backgrounds attend magnet schools.</p>
<p>How can MPS call their changes "expanded choice" when services are being cut or changes to move category 1 &amp; 2 ASD students from ASD teacher's caseload onto limited time with SERTs who are not certified and ASD licensed?</p>	<p>In prior years, ASD services were mainly provided through the context of the ASD citywide program. This year, we expanded the option for families to receive their special education services in their community school by adding more instructional supports. Many of our community schools have teachers who are licensed in ASD or ABS. Also, three ASD citywide classroom allocations were shifted to provide ASD specific services in community schools through itinerant staff.</p>

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