

Thomasville City Schools

915 East Jackson Street
Thomasville, Georgia 31792

July 1, 2009

TO: All Parents of Students enrolled in grades K-5 of the Thomasville City School System
RE: Public School Choice for 2009–2010 School Year

As the parent or guardian of a student currently enrolled in the Thomasville City School District, this is to notify you that under a new state law you may request to transfer your child to another public school in the city school district for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year.

Parent Responsibilities

As a parent or guardian, you can request to have your child transferred to another public school within your school district of residence as long as the school district has determined that there is available classroom space at the school after all assigned students have been enrolled. Please keep in mind that if you choose to transfer your child to another school in the district, the law requires you to assume all costs and responsibilities related to the transportation of your child to and from the school as long as your child remains at the school.

For your convenience, the district's list of schools with available classroom space for the upcoming school year is at the bottom of this letter. In order to process your request, you will need to complete and submit the attached "Transfer Request Form." Requests for transfers will not be accepted after the close of business on July 21, 2009.

Transfer requests will be reviewed and approved or denied on the basis of a lottery in the event a particular school has available space and the number of transfer requests exceeds the remaining available capacity. Once available classroom space is reached at a school, no more transfers will be accepted at that school. Since it is possible that you may not receive your first choice, you may indicate more than one choice on the enclosed Transfer Request Form.

If you have questions regarding this, please contact me at 229-225-2600, ext. 222.

Sincerely,



Sabrina Boykins Everett
Superintendent

Schools with available classroom space as of July 1, 2009

(It should be noted that placement meetings that are still in progress may change the availability of seats at a particular grade level or school.)

- K Harper Elementary School
- 1 Harper Elementary and Scott Elementary
- 2 Harper Elementary and Scott Elementary
- 3 Harper Elementary and Scott Elementary
- 4 Harper Elementary and Scott Elementary
- 5 Harper Elementary School

Thomasville City Schools Streamlined Process for Public School Choice

In compliance with Georgia House Bill 251, the Thomasville City School System has established the following streamlined process for parents to request a transfer to another school within the school district.

This process applies only to students enrolled in grades K-5 since the city school system operates only one middle school and only one high school. House Bill 251 does not apply to the Pre-Kindergarten program.

The city school system will advertise the dates during which parents may apply for school choice in the local newspaper and on the school system's website. Parents will be given 14 days to request a transfer after the choice option is advertised.

The school system will have a single transfer request period each school year with the final deadline being announced in published advertisements.

Transfer requests will be considered based upon the capacity of the requested school to receive additional students after the students assigned to the requested school have been enrolled.

In determining the capacity of the school to receive transfer students, the system will consider the capacity of the school to serve the student in the grade requested and in subsequent years. The school will determine the capacity of the school to receive students requesting a transfer giving consideration to the following:

- The school must have permanent classroom space for the student.
- The system will reserve classroom space at schools with particular resources for students whose Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Accommodation Plan (IAP) calls for placement at that particular school.
- The school system will consider both the class-size capacity by grade and subject and the capacity of the school building based on established health and safety provisions.

In the event a particular school has available space and the number of transfer requests exceeds the remaining available capacity, the system will conduct a random lottery that provides each student with an equal chance to be admitted.

**Thomasville City Schools
House Bill 251 (2009)
Public School Choice Request Form**

Please complete this form and mail or deliver it to Thomasville City Schools, 915 East Jackson Street, Thomasville, GA 31792.

Under a 2009 state law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2131), parents may request a transfer to another public school within their local school district. If you want to request a transfer, please complete the information below.

Parent Transfer Request Form (Parents Must Complete)

Student Information

Date _____ Student's Name _____

Grade _____ Birth Date _____ Age _____

Name of Custodial Parent or Guardian requesting transfer _____

Home Address _____
Street City State ZIP

Phone _____ E-Mail (if available) _____

School the student is currently attending: _____
Name of School

Parent Request for School Transfer

I _____ am requesting a transfer for _____
Name of Parent/Guardian Student's Legal Name

to attend one of the following other schools in the district. I fully understand that my child may only receive my first choice of schools if space is available at the time this request is approved by the local school district.

Parent/Guardian Ranked List of Schools for Transfer (where more than one school is available).

1) _____

2) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date