



I am smart!
I am important!
I was born to do great things.
I am awesome!

STUDENT ASSIGNMENT PLAN

CONTACT

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What is the JCPS Student Assignment Plan?

Success doesn't just happen, it's planned. That's why Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) has an established plan—or set of rules—for assigning students to schools. The current JCPS plan assigns middle and high school students to a specific school based on their home address. Elementary schools are arranged into 13 clusters (i.e., groups of schools) and parents indicate their preferences on an application. School and cluster boundaries are carefully drawn to promote a diverse student enrollment.

Since 1974, JCPS has been committed to fostering a diverse learning environment for every student in our district. In the beginning, diversity was based on the race of an individual student, but in 2007, we began looking at diversity through a wider lens based on characteristics of the neighborhood (i.e., census block group) in which students live. Considering the average income, percentage of minority students, and the educational attainment of the census block group, the current plan strives to provide a more diverse and inclusive learning environment for all of our students.

The JCPS Student Assignment Plan provides for choice through a variety of magnet schools and programs.

Why is a diverse learning environment important?

National research shows that there are both academic and nonacademic benefits for students who attend a diverse school. At JCPS, we believe that diversity has an impact on both school culture and climate as well as our students' ability to learn from each other, communicate, and collaborate. In addition to preparing students to navigate a 21st-century global society, we believe that diversity and cultural awareness can have a direct impact on academic performance and outcomes.

Why is there a review?

JCPS conducts a review of the Student Assignment Plan every five to seven years, making changes to the plan as necessary to meet the needs of the community and prepare students for success.

What has changed since the last review?

- Population shifts and changing student demographics
- Facilities review
- Racial Equity Policy
- Magnet Review—Magnet Steering Committee
- State audit

When did the review begin?

The committee had its first meeting in October 2017.

Who is on the committee?

The committee is comprised of parent representatives (one from each board district), community representatives (Greater Louisville Inc., Louisville Urban League, and the University of Louisville), teacher representatives, principals, and district administrators.

What has the committee been doing?

The committee has been discussing the history of student assignment in JCPS, as well as learning about demographic trends, the current Student Assignment Plan, and student assignment plans in other districts.

The next step for the district is to conduct a community-wide survey to gather input about the values that will guide revisions to the Student Assignment Plan. The district will be gathering input during fall 2018, and provide a report including recommendations for changes to the Jefferson County Board of Education in 2019.

Our goal is to have revisions to the plan implemented in the 2020-21 school year.

What will you do with the results of the survey?

Survey results will be shared with the Student Assignment Review Advisory Committee, the Jefferson County Board of Education, and the community. The results will be used to inform revisions to the Student Assignment Plan. Any plan that is developed will be aligned with the district's vision and mission, and comply with the Board's policies that support the three pillars of our district: Backpack of Success Skills, Racial Equity, and Culture and Climate.