




BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Middle and High School Choice Information

Dr. Sonja Brookins Santelises
Chief Executive Officer, Baltimore City Public Schools

Tina Hike-Hubbard, Chief Officer of Communications,
Engagement and Enrollment
Brandon Tilghman, Director for the Office of Enrollment,
Choice and Transfer



Objectives

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The purpose of this session is to:

- **Understand expectations around the choice process as it relates to family counseling in the completion of choice applications**
- **Inform interactions with students and parents around navigating the choice process**
- **Discuss best practices for helping students and families access information about their school options**

What is Middle School Choice?

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Middle School Choice is how students in grade 5 in Baltimore City are assigned to middle school

About half of middle school students do not have a zoned middle school

5th grade students who do not have a zoned middle school (Priority 1 students)

5th graders with zoned schools who wish to explore other options (Priority 2 students)

Students not currently attending Baltimore City Schools who wish to apply for a seat in the district

What is High School Choice?

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School Choice is how students in grade 8 in Baltimore City are assigned to high school

All 8th grade students

There are no zoned high schools in Baltimore

Students not currently attending Baltimore City Schools who wish to apply for a seat in the district

What's New with Choice?

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- **Expansion of Middle School Options** to include various k-8 sites
- There will be a **digital version of the School Choice Guide** for families to access
- Our CTE sites, **Carver, Edmondson, and Mergenthaler** will no longer have an **entrance-criteria**
- In addition to selecting schools on the **High School Choice application**, there will be a separate **survey for student interest in CTE programming**
- **Our School Choice Fair** will be held **virtually** this year, launching **December 4th**

What Else is New with Choice?

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- **ONE formula** will be used to calculate the **composite score** for entrance-criteria high schools
- **For the 21-22 SY, the assessment used in the calculation of the composite score will be the higher of the 18-19 SY PARCC/MCAP or the 20-21 SY BOY i-Ready assessment**
 - We will be using the higher of MCAP/PARCC from 2018-19 **or Amplify assessment from 2020-21 for 5th grade ELA**
 - For charter and contract schools that *don't currently use iReady* – we're working to identify a solution that provides students with an alternative to PARCC/MCAP. We'll let the liaisons know as soon as this has been finalized.

What Factors Go Into a Student's Choice?

ACADEMIC AND CAREER PROGRAMMING



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



FRIENDS/FAMILY



ENTRANCE QUALIFICATIONS

LOCATION



What Programs are Offered?

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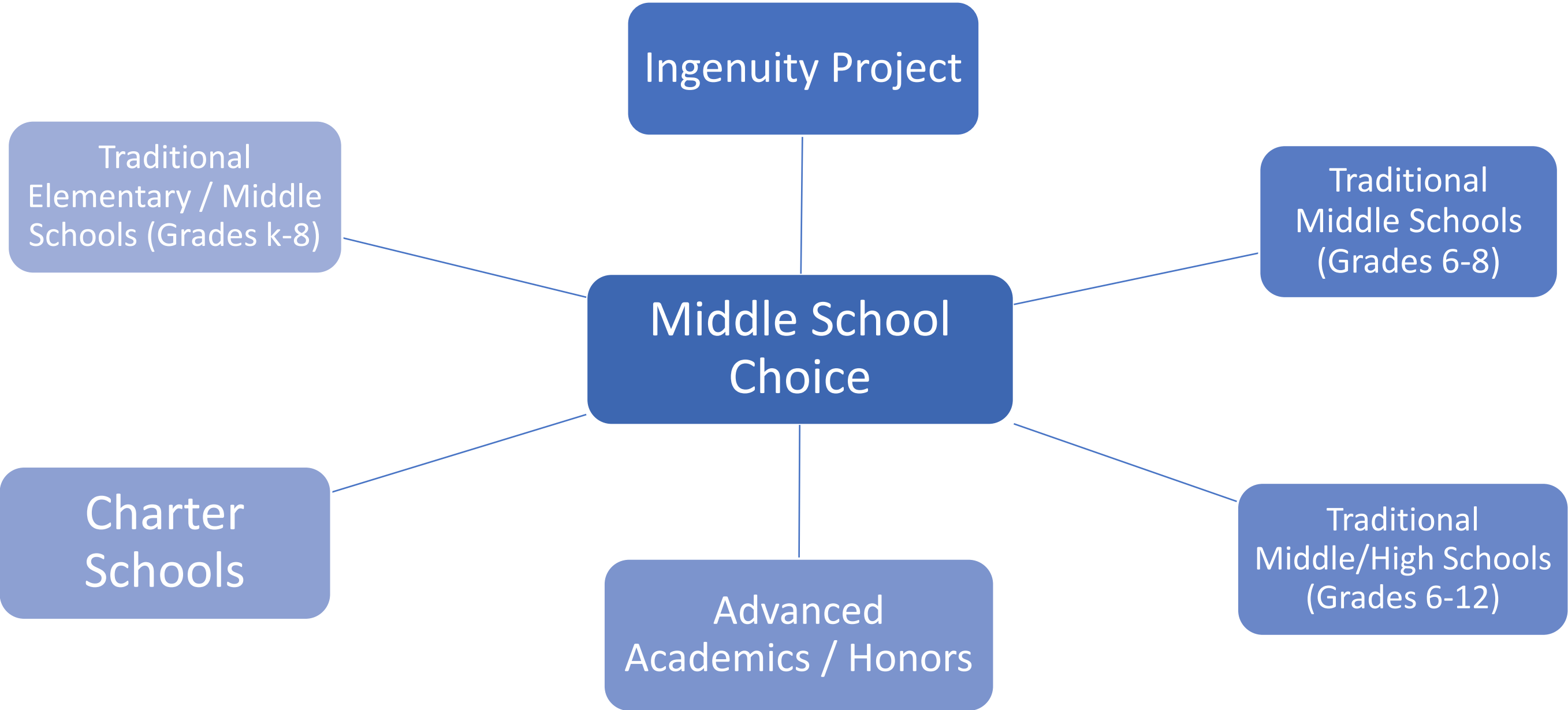
• **Special Academic Programming:**

- **3DE by Junior Achievement**
- **Advanced Academics**
- **Ingenuity Project**
- **P-TECH**
- **JROTC**
- **Dual Enrollment** to earn college credits!

• **Career and Technical Education** certification courses in a variety of subjects:

- **Computer Science**
- **Healthcare**
- **Culinary Arts**
- **Construction**
- **Cosmetology**
- **Automotive Repair**
- **And more...**

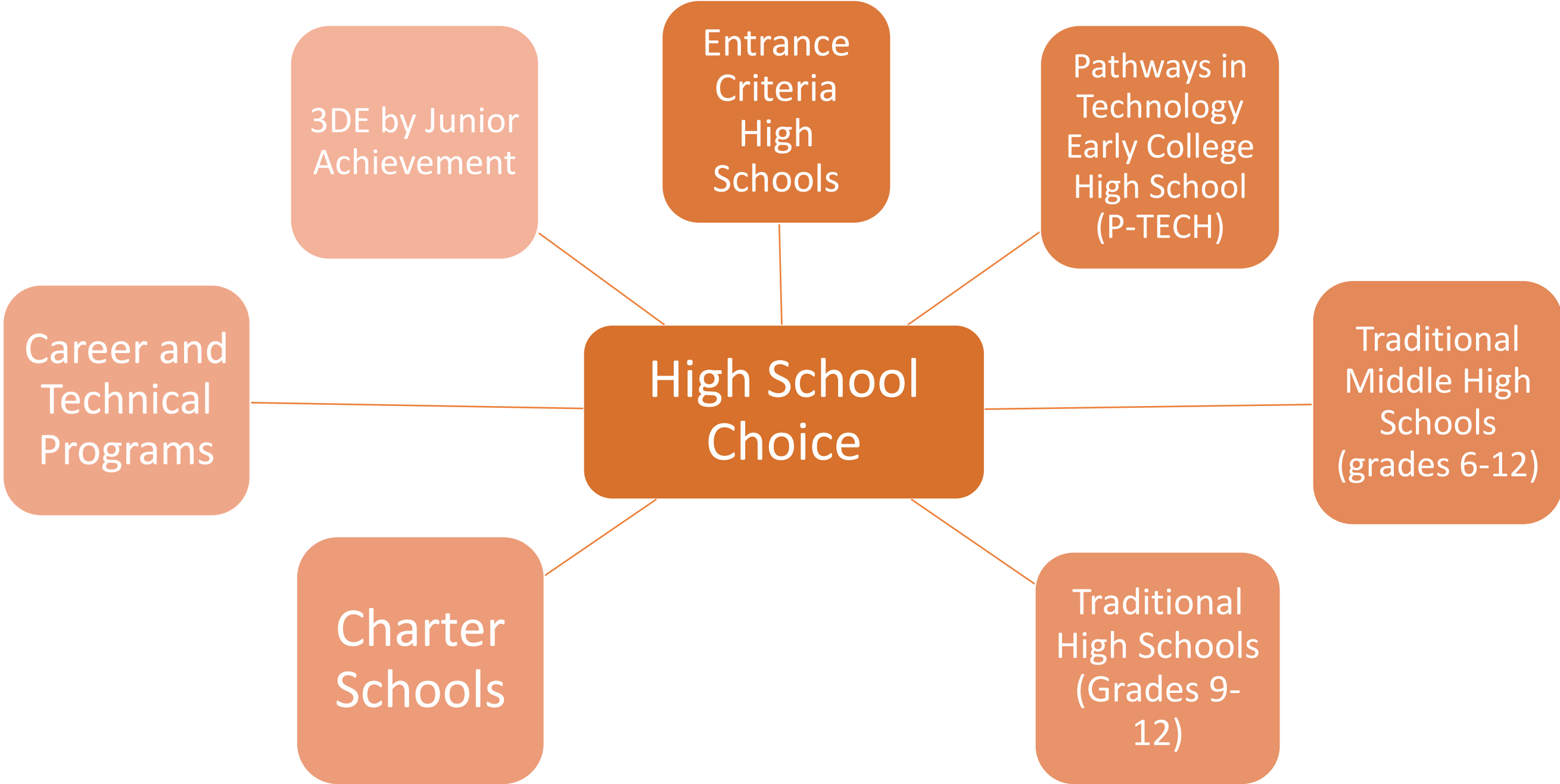
Middle School Choice Programs



Additional Considerations for Middle School Students

- **Sibling preference**
 - City Schools will try to place students in the same school as their sibling when possible
- **Location preference**
 - Students are given preference to schools that are near where they live
- **Priority preference**
 - Priority 1 students (those with no zone middle school) are ranked over Priority 2 students
 - Priority 2 students do not need to participate in the Choice Process, but can if they choose to
- **These preferences do not apply to Advanced Academic programs**

High School Choice Programs



What are Entrance Criteria Schools?

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ENTRANCE CRITERIA SCHOOLS HAVE MINIMUM COMPOSITE SCORE REQUIREMENTS IN ORDER FOR A STUDENT TO ATTEND

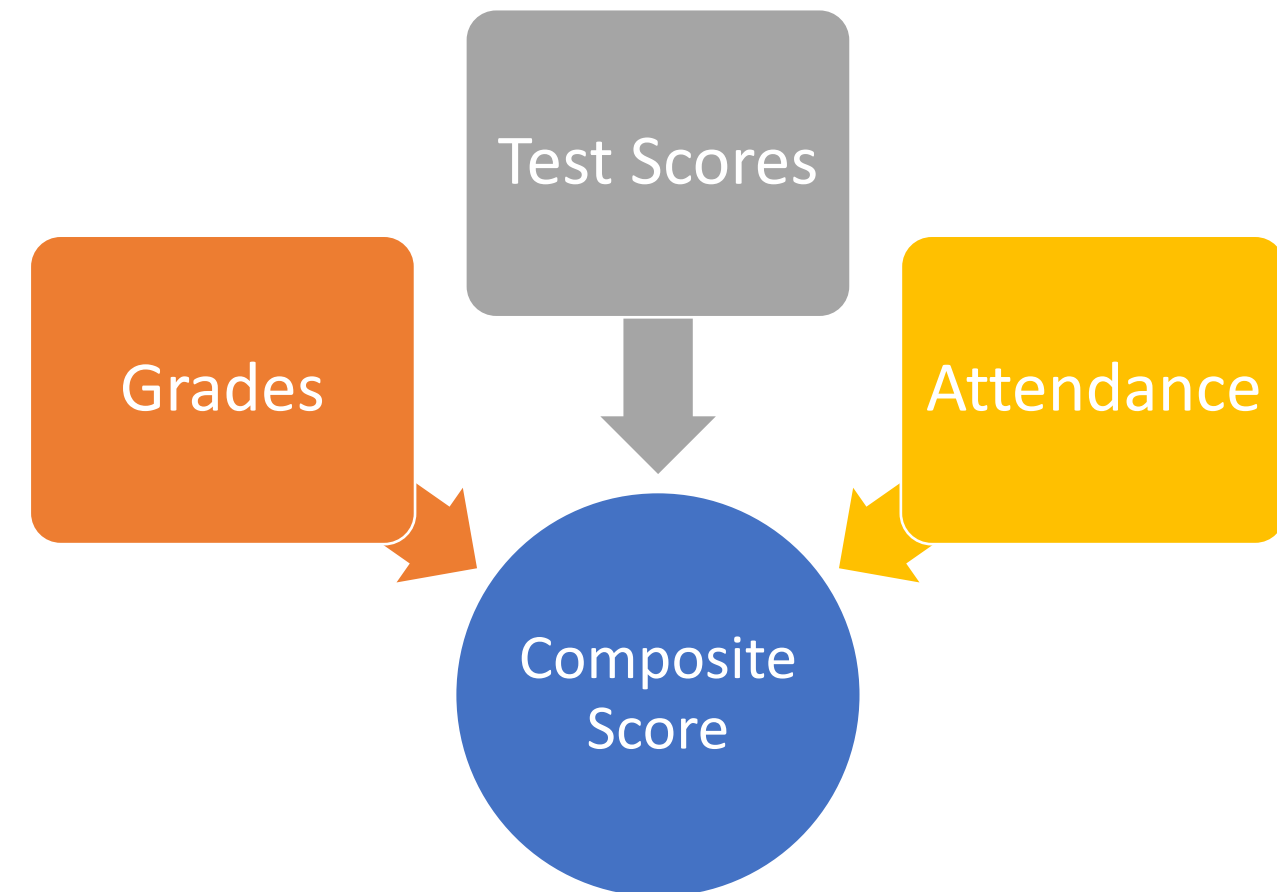
- **High schools with entrance criteria**
 - Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
 - Baltimore City College
 - Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
 - Western High School
- **Middle school Advanced Academics programs with entrance criteria**
 - Waverly E/M (355 Composite Score)
 - Roland Park E/M (355 Composite Score)
 - Cross Country E/M (355 Composite Score)
 - Mt. Royal E/M (355 Composite Score)
 - Francis Scott Key E/M (355 Composite Score)



What are Composite Scores?

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- **Composite scores are used to determine students' eligibility at entrance criteria schools**
- **They are typically calculated using:**
 - Final grades from 4th and 7th grade
 - 1st quarter grades from 5th and 8th grade
 - PARCC* test score percentiles
 - 1st quarter attendance percentage
- **When there are more applicants than available seats at certain schools, a rank order is used to determine placement at certain schools.**



Current Composite Score Formulas

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Middle School Advanced Academics:

- **General Average + BOY (beginning of the year) Math Test Score + Reading Test Score**

High School Entrance- Criteria:

- **(General Average x 2) + (English Average x 2) + (Math Average x 2) + Math Test Score + Reading Test Score**

How will the School Choice Liaison Support Prep Families?

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- **Serve as a resource for all families**
 - Provide information on school options
 - Inform families of important dates
 - Distribute materials and meet choice deadlines
 - Collect, review, discuss and enter applications
 - Counsel and advise families in navigating through the choice process
 - Prepare future participants for the choice process
- **Resources available to families and liaisons**
 - School Choice website (www.baltimorecityschools.org/choice)
 - Choice Guide
 - School staff
 - The Student Choice System on EWEB

Online Choice Application via Parent Portal

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Infinite Campus

Baltimore City

EMPLOYEE / STUDENTS SIGN IN

_____ or _____

Parent Username

Password

Log In

[Forgot Password?](#) [Forgot Username?](#) [Help](#)

[Log In to Campus Student](#)

_____ or _____

[New User?](#)

Campus Parent

Announcements

There are no district announcements.

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English

VISIT AND LOGIN AT:

<https://baltimore.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/parents/bcps.jsp>

BALTIMORE CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Online Choice Application via Parent Portal

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The screenshot displays the Infinite Campus Parent Portal interface. On the left is a dark sidebar with a menu containing: Message Center, Today, Calendar, Assignments, Grades, Grade Book Updates, Attendance, Schedule, Reports, Discussions, and More. The main content area has a green header with the Infinite Campus logo and a hamburger menu icon. Below the header, there is a 'More' section with a list of links: Address Information, Assessments, Demographics, Family Information, Health, Important Dates, and Lockers. To the right of this list is a 'Quick Links' section containing a single link: Online Choice Application.

SELECT “ONLINE CHOICE APPLICATION” UNDER “QUICK LINKS”

Online Choice Application via Parent Portal

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BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dashboard
About

John Doe
Student#: 0000000
DOB: 10/22/2007 **Grade:** 05
School#: 066
demoid#: 301697

James Doe
Student#: 1111111
DOB: 05/07/2005 **Grade:** 08
School#: 421
demoid#: 297051

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CLICK ON THE CORRESPONDING STUDENT CARD

Online Choice Application via Parent Portal

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School Choice

- Choice 1:
- Choice 2:
- Choice 3:
- Choice 4:
- Choice 5:

 Save

SELECT UP TO FIVE SCHOOLS AND CLICK "SAVE"

Families Accessing Parent Portal

Campus Portal

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

City Schools Families –

Help us keep in touch and stay connected with you! See your child's classes, schedules, grades, and report cards all in one place in Parent Portal.

HERE'S HOW...

- 1** Visit baltimorecityschools.org/campus-portal
- 2** Click "create a new account" and follow the directions
- 3** After you create an account, download the Campus Portal app for easy access to your child's information.

If you have questions, please speak with staff at your child's school or call 443-984-2000.

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How to Apply, Continued

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Charter schools run their own admission processes

- Families must apply directly to these schools by February 5th

Baltimore School for the Arts' auditions are held the week of January 19th

PTECH applicants need to list the school on their School Choice Application

The Ingenuity Project has a separate assessment for applicants

- For middle school Ingenuity applicants, students must apply through Ingenuity
- For Ingenuity at Baltimore Polytechnic, students must apply both through Ingenuity and the School Choice Application

Family Counseling Activity (High School)

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Look at the sample student's information:

- **What school or schools would you consider recommending?**
- **Share out recommendations to the whole group.**
- **Do you agree or disagree with the recommendations? Why?**



Student A:

- **Wants to be a nurse**
- **Lives in SW Baltimore**
- **Has a sibling that attends The REACH! Partnership School**
- **Was retained in 6th grade**



Has a composite score of :

CITY, DUNBAR, POLY and WESTERN 561.5

Student B:

- **Wants to be a lawyer**
- **Loves going to school**
- **Has relatives that went to Baltimore City College**
- **Lives in Brooklyn, MD**



Has a composite score of :

CITY, DUNBAR, POLY and WESTERN 646.0

Student C:

- **Wants to be a mechanic**
- **Likes playing football**
- **Lives in SE Baltimore**
- **Receives ESOL services**



Has a composite score of :

CITY, DUNBAR, POLY and WESTERN 493.0

Student D:

- **Wants to be an engineer**
- **Has a sibling that attends Roland Park**
- **Lives in NW Baltimore**
- **The zone school offers Advanced Academics (the zone school is NOT RPEMS)**



Has a composite score of :

ADVANCED ACADEMIC COMPOSITE
SCORE

364.0

Choice Timeline

- **October through December – Schools hold open houses and shadow days**
- **Late-November – Student Choice System available to liaisons**
- **December 4th – Virtual School Choice Fair launches**
- **January 22th – Choice applications due**
- **January 29th – Deadline for entering applications into SCS**
- **February 5th – Charter applications due**
- **March 5th – Students begin receiving placement letters**