



# SYRACUSE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Department of Student Registration

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## 2020-21 School Choice Options for Middle School Students

Detail	Expeditionary Learning Middle School (ELMS)	Oasis Academy	Syracuse Latin (Middle School)
<b>Program Description</b>	At the Expeditionary Learning Middle School (ELMS), students benefit from a personalized, yet academically rigorous atmosphere. The curriculum and standards are taught through engaging interdisciplinary “Expeditions”, as teachers often use the greater Syracuse community as their classroom. ELMS teachers work daily with small groups of students (CREWs) to help students develop strong relationships with each other, to connect with the school experience and to support students socially, emotionally and academically.	Oasis Academy is an opportunity afforded to students who may be experiencing difficulty academically or socially in their current school. Designed with a therapeutic environment in mind, the class sizes are small with an average 10:1 student to teacher ratio. Oasis offers hands on learning through an interdisciplinary, project based learning approach.  Through this therapeutic environment, Oasis empowers students to thrive in a smaller learning environment that promotes success, and prepares them to actively and successfully participate in every aspect of student life within and beyond the schools walls.	Syracuse Latin offers an opportunity for students to engage in accelerated coursework that will lead to earning multiple high school credits prior to transitioning out of 8th grade. Students are expected to participate in school-wide enrichment and individualized cross-disciplinary research projects that progress through the middle school years. Students are also expected to be active members of their community and work closely with classmates on a variety of service projects. There will be opportunities for choice electives in the arts and STEM. The coursework students engage in will prepare them to continue into any of the exciting high school opportunities within the Syracuse City School District.
<b>Target Population</b>	Students entering 6th grade only	Students entering 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> or 8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Students entering 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> grade only
<b>Referral Process</b>	Enrollment in to ELMS is a collaborative process involving the referring student’s elementary school and ELMS staff. The Elementary Schools’ Fifth Grade Team will work closely with the School’s Intervention Team (SIT) to identify potential applicants to enroll in ELMS. The SIT is responsible for submitting a referral to the ELMS Interview/Selection Team. A referral to attend ELMS is based on a variety of educational and socio-emotional factors (see criteria on back).	Enrollment in to Oasis Academy is a collaborative process involving the referring student’s elementary school and the Office of Student Support Services. The Elementary Fifth Grade Team along with the School’s Intervention Team (SIT) will identify potential applicants to enroll in Oasis and then submit a referral to the Oasis Interview/Selection Team. A referral to attend Oasis is based on a variety of educational and socio-emotional factors (see criteria on back).	Not Applicable

*(More detail on back)*

## 2020-21 School Choice Options for Middle School Students *continued*

Detail	Expeditionary Learning Middle School (ELMS)	Oasis Academy	Syracuse Latin (Middle School)
<b>Criteria for Consideration</b>	<p>A student who is an ideal candidate may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at risk for low academic performance due to a history of being bullied, absenteeism, anxiety, gender identification, etc.</li> <li>• be at risk for social isolation</li> <li>• demonstrate an interest in hands on, project based learning and working in small groups with peers</li> <li>• exhibit strong interpersonal or leadership skills</li> <li>• be disengaged from their peers and school</li> </ul>	<p>A student who may be a good candidate may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at risk for low academic performance</li> <li>• be at risk for social isolation</li> <li>• prefer or learn best from hands on, project based learning</li> <li>• be disengaged from their peers and school</li> <li>• thrive best in a therapeutic environment and require on-site mental health services and wrap around supports</li> </ul>	<p>Students who meet one or more of the following are eligible to participate in the interview process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60% proficiency on Math or ELA Achievement Network Assessments;</li> <li>• 60% proficiency on Math or ELA STAR assessments;</li> <li>• 50% growth on Math or ELA STAR assessments; and/or</li> <li>• Scored a “3” or “4” on NYS ELA or Math exam in 3rd or 4th grade.</li> </ul>
<b>Application and Interview Process</b>	<p>Students who are referred and meet the criteria listed above are encouraged to submit an online application by visiting <a href="http://www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com">www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com</a> – February 1 through March 31, 2020. ELMS will contact families to schedule an interview. The interview allows families the opportunity to gather information and ask questions regarding the appropriateness of ELMS for their child. It also provides an opportunity for the Interview/Selection Team to meet the student and fully determine if the student is an appropriate match for enrollment.</p>	<p>Students who are referred by their school and meet the criteria listed above are encouraged to submit an online application by visiting <a href="http://www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com">www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com</a> – February 1 through March 31, 2020. The Office of Student Support Services will contact families to schedule an interview. The interview allows families the opportunity to gather information and ask questions regarding the appropriateness of Oasis for their child. It also provides an opportunity for the Interview/Selection Team to meet the student and fully determine if the student is an appropriate match for enrollment.</p>	<p>Students who meet the criteria listed above are encouraged to submit an online application by visiting <a href="http://www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com">www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com</a> – February 1 through March 31, 2020. Syracuse Latin will contact families to schedule an interview. The interview allows families the opportunity to gather information and ask questions regarding the appropriateness of Syracuse Latin for their child. It also provides an opportunity for the Interview/Selection Team to meet the student and fully determine if the student is an appropriate match for enrollment.</p>
<b>Selection Process</b>	<p>Students who are recommended by the Interview/Selection Committee will be included in the Smartchoice Online Lottery process. If a student <b>is not recommended</b> by the Interview/Selection Committee or is waitlisted in the lottery via the random selection process, that student will be required to attend his/her feeder middle school or home school in September as detailed in the middle school letter.</p>	<p>Students who are recommended by the Interview/Selection Committee will be included in the Smartchoice Online Lottery process. If a student <b>is not recommended</b> by the Interview/Selection Committee or is waitlisted in the lottery via the random selection process, that student will be required to attend his/her feeder middle school or home school in September as detailed in the middle school letter.</p>	<p>Students who are recommended by the Interview Committee will be included in the Smartchoice Online Lottery process. If a student <b>is not recommended</b> by the Interview/Selection Committee or is waitlisted in the lottery via the random selection process, that student will be required to attend his/her feeder middle school or home school in September as detailed in the middle school letter.</p>
<b>Notification Process</b>	<p>The Department of Student Registration will notify all families in writing (letter or email) of their acceptance, non-acceptance or waitlist status.</p>	<p>The Department of Student Registration will notify all families in writing (letter or email) of their acceptance, non-acceptance or waitlist status.</p>	<p>The Department of Student Registration will notify all families in writing (letter or email) of their acceptance, non-acceptance or waitlist status.</p>

## K-8 Transfer Program Information

If you are interested in submitting a **request** for your child to attend a different middle school, your child **must** meet at least one of the transfer criteria listed below. The criteria are listed in order of priority. This means that **home school and sibling** requests have a higher ranking in the lottery system than sibling only, home school only, and quadrant:

1. **Home School and Sibling:** Select this transfer option if you are requesting to transfer your child to your home school (the school identified as your neighborhood school based on your current address) **AND** you have another child (sibling or other) who attends your school of interest, resides in the same home as the applicant, and who will be enrolled in the school next school year. Please visit [www.syracusecityschools.com/registration](http://www.syracusecityschools.com/registration) and click on the School Lookup Tool link to identify your home school using your current address.
2. **Sibling Only:** Select this option if you are requesting to transfer your child to join a sibling or other child who attends your school of interest, resides in the same home as the applicant, and who will be enrolled in the school next school year.
3. **Home School Only:** Select this option if you are requesting to transfer your child to your home school (the school identified as your home school based on your address). Please visit [www.syracusecityschools.com/registration](http://www.syracusecityschools.com/registration) and click on the School Lookup Tool link to identify your home school using your current address.
4. **Quadrant:** Select this option if you are requesting a transfer to a school within your quadrant. Here is a complete list of middle schools by quadrant:

North Quadrant	South Quadrant	East Quadrant	West Quadrant
Huntington Middle School	Clary Middle School	Edward Smith K-8 School	Frazer Middle School
Grant Middle School	Brighton Academy	H.W. Smith K-8 School	Syracuse STEM @ Blodgett
Lincoln Middle School	Roberts K-8 School		

If there are more students who are eligible for a transfer to your school of interest than we have seats available, the District will ensure a fair and equitable placement process by using the Smartchoice Online Lottery System to conduct a lottery. If your child meets the criteria, but is not selected in the lottery, they will be placed on a waitlist and required to attend the school listed in the 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade transition letter. Once your child is assigned to the waitlist, the Department of Student Registration will contact you if a seat becomes available. Students are placed during the first marking period of the school year. Transfer waitlist do not rollover to the next school year. If a student is not assigned during the current school year, the family will be required to resubmit a new transfer request during the next transfer cycle.