# ADMISSION PROCEDURES Math and Science Academy

### **GENERAL STATEMENT OF ENROLLMENT**

It is the Math and Science Academy's procedure to provide equal educational opportunity for all students. The Math and Science Academy does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, parental status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, or age.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

The procedure of the Math and Science Academy is to enroll a student who submits a timely application unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. In this case, pupils will be admitted by lot. The Math and Science Academy does not limit enrollment to pupils on the basis of intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability.

### TERMINOLOGY

### Admission

The process of a student applying for enrollment. Admission is subject to capacity. A student must be admitted before the student may enroll.

### Admitted student

A student who submitted a timely application for enrollment (i.e., during the open enrollment period), who is offered a seat and completes the enrollment process.

### Staff

A staff member eligible for an enrollment preference for their child, including foster child, must be an individual employed at the school whose employment is stipulated in advance to total at least 480 hours in a school calendar year.

### Sibling

Siblings of an admitted student, including the foster children of the pupil's parents.

# **ADMISSION PROCEDURES**

Math and Science Academy establishes the following Admissions and Lottery Procedure.

# **ADMISSIONS STATEMENT**

Admission to Math and Science Academy is open to all students, without regard to ability, race, religion, or any other factors. Enrollment will be influenced by the capacity of the program, class, grade level, or building.

- 1. 1. Each school year, the Board of Directors:
  - a. Initiates the open enrollment period applicable to the following school year's admission.
  - b. Posts on the Math and Science Academy website:

i. Math and Science Academy's enrollment application applicable to the following school year, and

ii. the Admissions and Lottery procedure.

c. Establishes and publishes at the January Board meeting, the available enrollment by grade applicable to the following school year.

- 2. Prior to the beginning of the open enrollment period, the school provides notice of the open enrollment period to parents and current staff so that siblings of admitted students and children of current staff may submit an application.
- During the month of January, the school asks families to complete a "Intent to Return" form. The "Intent to Return" form helps in planning more effectively for the next school year. Completing the form is optional, and families are not required to do so.
- 4. Each enrollment application received is date-stamped and also either time-stamped or sequentially stamped by number designating the order in which applications were received for each such date.
- 5. All applications received during the open enrollment period are automatically accepted for enrollment unless more applications are received than the available capacity established by the Board for the applicable grade(s).

# ORDER OF ADMISSION

If the number of applications for a specific grade level exceed the number seats available students will be admitted in the following order:

- 1. **Siblings** who submit an application are automatically admitted unless the number of sibling applications exceeds the available capacity established by the Board for the applicable grade(s). If the number of sibling applications exceeds available capacity in any grade, a sibling lottery is held for each such grade. Siblings are admitted to the school in the order in which they are drawn in that lottery. If all available capacity in a grade is filled by siblings, the sibling lottery continues and establishes the sibling waiting list, which has preference over both the staff-children waiting list and the general waiting list.
- 2. **Children of current staff** employed at the school who submit an application before the expiration of the open enrollment period, are automatically admitted provided that all siblings (of admitted students) who submitted an application are admitted, and provided there is available capacity as determined by the Board for the applicable grade(s). If the number of children of current staff exceeds the available capacity established by the Board for any grade (and after all siblings of admitted students who submitted an

application are admitted), a staff-children lottery is held.

Children of current staff are admitted to the school in the order in which they are drawn in the lottery. If all available capacity in a grade is filled by children of current staff, the staff-children lottery continues to establish the staff-children waiting list for each such grade, which has preference over the general waiting list.

- 3. All other students If the number of applications received during the open enrollment period exceeds available capacity established by the Board for any grade (and after siblings of admitted students who submitted applications are already admitted or establish a sibling waiting list, and after all children of current staff employed at the school who submitted an application are already admitted or establish a staff-children waiting list, the school conducts a general lottery. All applications for each such grade(s), excluding applications from siblings of already admitted students and excluding applications from children of current staff employed at the school, received before the expiration of the enrollment period are included in the general lottery. Students are admitted to the school in the order in which they are drawn in the lottery, as long as there is available capacity as determined by the Board for the applicable grade(s). If all available capacity in any grade is filled, the lottery continues and establishes the general waiting list for each such grade in the order drawn, until all applications are drawn. If a student is admitted through the general lottery and that student has one or more siblings in other grades also subject to a lottery, those siblings are automatically admitted as long as available capacity as determined by the Board remains in the applicable grade(s).
- 4. **Applications received after the lottery.** Applicants are automatically admitted as long as there is available capacity as established by the Board in the applicable grade and siblings continue to have preference, in the order received. If, or once, there is no available capacity in any grade, applications are added to the applicable waiting list for each such grade, in the order received.

The school conducts all lotteries through a method of random selection. If a student becomes ineligible for a waitlist they are on (Example: a student on the sibling waitlist no longer has a sibling attending MSA), the student will be moved to the bottom of the next appropriate waitlist.

# **GENERAL ADMISSION PROCEDURES**

### Order of Admission

- 1. Siblings of Already Admitted Student
- 2. Children of Staff Employed at the School
- 3. General Admissions

### Waiting list does not carry over from year to year

Each waiting list is valid only for the school year for which it is drawn and does not carry over to subsequent years.

# Multiple births (twins, triplets, etc.)

Each student seeking admission completes an application (i.e. not one application for the family). In a lottery situation, each student receives an individual number/lot in the lottery.

## Lottery Grade Order

Applicable lotteries occur from lowest grade to highest grade.

## **Race/Ethnicity Reporting**

Admitted students - If parent, guardian, or student self-identification methods are not possible, or the family declines to answer the questions, the Executive Director or designee will utilize the best information they possess to determine the student's race/ethnicity for reporting purposes, as required by Minnesota Statute 120 B.35.

# FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT ADMISSION PROCEDURES

# ADMISSION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

All foreign exchange students with J-1 visas residing in Minnesota will follow the same admissions process required for applicants seeking admission and enrollment.

Math and Science Academy complies with all applicable Minnesota State laws and regulations including all requirements set forth in 124E.11c.