

Adjusts some details for sibling preference and twins Elementary School - keeps siblings together Maintains • sibling preference for concurrently enrolled students • Twins admitted as two but treated as one in lottery Expands definition of twins (same: grade, residence, & guardians)
Secondary School – adjustment Changes - Twins considered separately (not treated as one) TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT THE PROPOSED CHANGE

Strengths	Challenges	Other thoughts
Makes the policy clearer. Especially for elementary school, keeping families at one school is essential for parents.	No concerns	
Seems equitable.	This should not apply to neighborhood transfers-- you should be discouraging neighborhood transfers in general since all neighborhood schools are overcrowded.	I'm concerned about the overcrowding at science focus if grandfathering of existing Taylor kids is combined with sibling preference for their younger siblings. Science focus is more crowded than Taylor, would prefer to see sibling preference ended for neighborhood transfers.
Siblings, who will be concurrently attending, should be guaranteed admission for Kindergarten entry at all option schools..		Need to define twins: there are situations where there is an adopted sibling or step-sibling in the same grade but different date of birth. Also need to define sibling preference: for Kindergarten entry only or will siblings applying for upper grades, where a wait list exists, get priority as well?
		Thank you for same grade/residence/guardians! Blended and adoptive families now feel recognized like the rest of the world.

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makes logistics for families more manageable with expanded definition. Also, recognizes range of family structures in Arlington and no longer penalizes non biological siblings	HBW class size is small enough, especially in comparison to all the other MS - keeping the newly defined sibling preference (same grade) would not jeopardize HB's image of being special and would maintain the logistical help for parents/families noted for elementary schools	
is a much more appropriate definition for "twins"		
	If you change secondary school policy for twins, this puts an undue burden on families. Twins are unique in their bond. Not allowing twins to attend the same school under one slot will be detrimental to their growth.	I don't understand how you can change the definition of twins. I had two kids within 2 min of each other. There is only one medical definition of twins
agree with sibling preference for concurrently enrolled students		
This is fine.		
	Parents forced to drive children to different parts of county (time, resource waste, esp. since most parents work) -- RECOMMEND KEEPING CURRENT	
This keeps families together and adds to the strength of the programs they attend		
Siblings should receive preference.		

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I think the expanded definition of twins in the elementary area.	Please continue to treat twins as one in the secondary lottery.	
Good!		
Seems reasonable; I like the expanded definition since co-residency seems to be a major reason for counting twins as one.	Why don't the twin preferences go through middle school (except maybe for HB)? If I had twins, I'd want them in the same middle school.	
None	I think it is a bad idea to split up twins like that. Treat them as you have in the past.	
None!	Do not treat twins separately. I am the parent of twins and cannot imagine the disruption if families were split between two school systems. It would be inherently unfair to children and families. Do not do this.	
Sibling preference is extremely important - more likely to engage families and have them feel vested in their elementary school		
Twin changes good.		

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I support the expanded definition of twins.	I am very concerned this change virtually guarantees that twins cannot attend the same options secondary program. If it is a program that would be good for both children, parents of twins are uniquely challenged when only one gets in because the decision must be made for both at the same time. Often both twins will not both attend an options school if they get in as a unit -- but it would be beneficial to those few families with twins who both want to attend to continue to allow this.	How would the policy affect twins in a lottery for a middle school options program?
As an elementary school parent, it would be mayhem to have my kids at different schools. This is fair and logical.	The secondary school option should be reconsidered; this would be hard for families with kids close in age.	
Maintain sibling preference makes sense and is the popular option by far.		Honestly, when kids go to middle school, parents manage fine with two different schools.
Keeping families together is paramount.		Explicitly ensure that currently enrolled children are grandfathered into their current Elementary school.

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As a parent of twins, I am ok in Elementary with treating them as one in an elementary lottery since I would not be separating them at that age.		As a parent of twins, I do not like treating them separately in secondary school. We have several kids, and do not have that kind of flexibility to pick them up from different schools. Raising twins is not easy, and are such a small percent of students, why are you picking on us?
Keeps siblings together at elementary level.		Twins should be defined as in the womb together at the same time before birth. Merged families with children of the same age are not considered twins and is not fair to biological twins.
Makes life easier for parents makes sense.	Could present an issue for parents of only one child, more competitive	
agree. Siblings should always be kept together, whether they are twins or not. It puts an incredible and almost impossible strain on parents to have their children going to two different elementary schools.		
None	This is horrible. You will separate kids which will make it less secure for little kids and much harder for parents and transportation.	
		Fine

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Sibling guarantee is a must at the ES level.	What is a sibling? Multiples and siblings need to have the same definition or there is a loophole. Need to define siblings along with multiples.	Term should be "multiples", not "twins". Multiples will include twins, but not vice versa. Regarding secondary schools, without sibling preference, there is no need for multiples being treated as one.
		Siblings should absolutely be permitted to enroll at the same school. If an older sibling is presently enrolled in the school, younger siblings should be guaranteed admission to that same school.
As an adoptive parent I really appreciate the expanded definition of twins. This may seem silly to the unaffected, but it's very helpful for those of us uniquely raising "near-twins." thank you!		
makes perfect sense.		
Fair to families and siblings, without giving twins an advantage in middle school		
clarifies policy. makes it easier for parents to understand		

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makes it easier on families	Guaranteeing siblings a place could fill up most of the available slots.	Sibling preference should just be a preference, not a guarantee. If there are not enough slots, siblings will have to go on the waitlist like everyone else. Especially for the immersion schools- enrollment should be capped at the level of capacity the school actually HAS- not the level of capacity the school can squeeze out if it educates students in trailers, hallways and closets. Realigning start times and bus routes more sensibly may also help parents with students in multiple elementary s
Helps families that adopted and had a baby at the same time or adopted twins	Could breed suspicion and resentment.	If one twin's admission helps the other one, treat them as one applicant. I don't get the rationale for this change that would just make it easier to get in if you're a twin. Sends a bad message.
I support this change.		Why is there a change in considering twins separately at the secondary level? In middle school, I can see families wanting to keep their kids together and not balance multiple schools. This may change in high school.

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		siblings should always be kept together
Makes sense.		
	Its not fair within a family and causes strain and tension within the family unit.	Rather, why not have sibling preferences K-12 and concurrent enrollment is not a precondition. A family is either in or out of a school. This will create peace and harmony within a family.
		Fine
Don't silly families.		
At the elementary level, family cohesion is very important and should be preserved.	Students grandfathered in will be odd ones out, without transportation to school.	