

Redefines “transfers” into two categories • Admission to Option Schools • A transfer to another neighborhood school that has available seats PIPs clarify processes used for both

1 a Strengths	1 b Challenges	1 c Other thoughts
Much clearer	No concerns	
Very simple		
PIPs great for process like where forms go.	PIP should not determine whether ES immersion students are guaranteed MS or HS slots. That's policy.	Feels like as in the example above, we'll need to be careful not to remove too much from policy, because policy is only way for transparency and public input, no?
it's fine	none	none
It seems to be a good faith attempt to balance the population of the schools while offering instructional choices to parents.		
This gives equal access to all APS students if all option schools can be a possibility.	Who determines the "available" seats per school, School Admin? School Board? Superintendent?	If this is done correctly, this changes the absolute inequity in the system currently.
		Exceptions may be warranted depending on an individual's/family's/neighborhood's circumstances.
nice to have Option School standardized with a name		The programs are different and we still need to promote how they are different.
That people have options if their school is over crowded and this might help to reduce student enrollment at some schools	As a parent I would not want to take a transfer unless it was guaranteed for the remaining years that my child would attend that school	
Sounds fine.		
Yes! Simplicity! Stop the preferential admissions! Stop the confusing clusters, zone, whatever...	Those with preferences will not like this. Resist the urge to make special deals. That's why Claremont still has guaranteed admission a decade longer than was envisioned. Bit the bullet and make the call now; otherwise you'll be revisiting the question again in a few years.	
		How about coming up with a different word, instead of two different definitions of the word "transfer"

Redefines "transfers" into two categories • Admission to Option Schools • A transfer to another neighborhood school that has available seats PIPs clarify processes used for both

None -- it is not at all clear what you mean by an "options school."	You need to provide a list of "options schools" and "neighborhood schools." It is also quite confusing that you use the word "option" or "options" in so many different ways. Try using a synonym.	I watched the video and read the handout and still have no idea how you will handle a student who is currently enrolled at Science Focus who lives in the Taylor team district (and walks to Science Focus).
There are no strengths to this change	This is needlessly disruptive and will not achieve the Board's goals. Do not dismantle the Team structure, we have students that go to ASFS and the diversity that comes from the Team is an important component of the school culture.	Do not dismantle the Team structure at ASFS, Key, Jameston and Taylor.
Clarifies the different transfer types. Life that this treats OPTION schools differently		
Good distinction to make.	The change doesn't address the demand for preschool montessori at neighborhood schools. It isn't fair that Jamestown has 45 seats and McK only has 15. Preschool should be considered option and admission should not be neighborhood driven or priority.	
Clarity to the process	Fairness. It is hard to be on a low performing neighborhood school and have limited chances to transfer.	
Weakens the community involvement in making changes to these policies.		
Elementary should be neighborhood schools, and not option schools. Fine if that neighborhood school has a "unique" program, still should be a neighborhood school	If you make Key a county wide option school, you will overload ASFS. Turn both into neighborhood schools so VA Square residents can have a neighborhood school. Let's face it, Taylor as a neighborhood school for VA Square residents is ridiculous.	If there must be a county wide option school, there should be a 1/2 mile walk zone for neighborhood students.

Redefines “transfers” into two categories • Admission to Option Schools • A transfer to another neighborhood school that has available seats PIPs clarify processes used for both

		A special look should be taken for Science Focus. It has unique issues since the school is not located in the neighborhood, and it has more renters/apartments/multi-family housing than other areas along with the most expensive housing in the county. It should remain a team school with Taylor/Jamestown to the extent that families who move out of the current district but move to Taylor/Jamestown areas should be permitted to stay in the school.
Offers more options for Arlington Cty students the option to apply for a transfer. Good to have simpler process.	Unknown	
transfers should be allowed to any school with seats.	Should be a policy, not a PIP where changes can be made directly by superintendant with out a vote.	All students curenly enrolled in Transfer School (including lottery students) and siblings should be grandfathered in and allowed to continue at current school
Allows for some option without given too many choices.	Decision will likely confine residents to specific communities in Arlington to ensure their kids stay in the same school district.	
Makes transfer process clearer		
I do think students should be allowed to transfer to schools with open seats. APS is unique in that it offers so many different schools to fit all different learning styles.	Making sure we can offer enough transfers	
None	People moved into their neighborhoods for the particular school. A child should be able to go to the same school as their sibling .	This re-assignment will negatively drastically affect me and many of my neighbors. Sending kids all across the county is not beneficial for anyone.
None	ASFS will be 200+% above capacity. More trailers isn't an acceptable option.	No grandfathering at ASFS when changes are made.. Jamestown and Taylor must go back.

Redefines “transfers” into two categories • Admission to Option Schools • A transfer to another neighborhood school that has available seats PIPs clarify processes used for both

<p>I like that immersion schools are taken out of clusters and that you are aiming for 50% English and 50% Spanish but parents need to opt in and understand the commitment.</p>	<p>I am very concerned about the idea that everyone would be automatically enrolled in the lottery for immersion. What if you get a family that takes it on a lark and you leave out a family who feels strongly about immersion? You have created a situation where the family that gets the spot may not feel strongly, is not committed to the school and is more likely to drop out if it is hard. These schools need committed, invested parents who opt in.</p>	<p>I am concerned about the east/west divide: we live in the discovery school zone and initially when we were considered nottingham, we had to travel to claremont. The biggest difficulties of that: our kindergartner was on the bus at 7 am for a long bus ride. We were less involved in the school because it was so far and it was hard to create community. Outside activities like sports or afterschool things were in our neighborhood so we were not reinforcing the community of our school.</p>
<p>Good to define.</p>	<p>Why is this definition not in the policy? Is this definition really subject to change going forward?</p>	<p>Shouldn't define "transfers" using the word "transfer". (See second bullet.)</p>
		<p>This change as described does not provide sufficient information about the impact of the changed definition to make an assessment about the proposed change.</p>
<p>increases clarity, consistency, and fairness</p>	<p>none</p>	<p>great change!</p>
<p>straightforward</p>		
<p>easier application process</p>		
<p>simplifies the policy</p>	<p>people are used to the old terminology. Might be better off just scrapping the word transfe, just calling it enrollment policy (or enrollment and admission policy); and having a separate section for Admission to Option school and Admission to out of Boundary neighborhood school</p>	<p>Cap enrollment in the immersion schools,</p>
<p>It's good to spell things out better. Great to see APS being proactive about filling up vacant seats in neighborhood schools.</p>		

Redefines “transfers” into two categories • Admission to Option Schools • A transfer to another neighborhood school that has available seats PIPs clarify processes used for both

		<p>children who are already attending a neighborhood school should be given preference to stay there, above a student who is not already attending. For example, this would apply to a child who attends Taylor but moves out of Taylor and wants to transfer back in. They should get preference over a new student in order to minimize disruption to that student and the school. Second, if a student is allowed to transfer into another school, they should NOT have to reapply every year.</p>
<p>I am very happy that you are opening up transfer spots to neighborhood schools with space. I think this will help to better balance enrollment without forcing families to move.</p>		
		<p>fine. need to add sibling preference</p>
<p>Clarifies the definition</p>		
	<p>What about forced transfers that take place because your neighborhood school doesn't have any space left? If you are going to force some children to go to other schools because of overcrowding then those children need to have a preference in the Option school lottery and to receive transportation to go to another neighborhood school.</p>	
		<p>Fine</p>
	<p>Over crowding in some schools.</p>	<p>The plan won't change the diversity issue. It will create more division across the county.</p>

Redefines “transfers” into two categories • Admission to Option Schools • A transfer to another neighborhood school that has available seats PIPs clarify processes used for both

Seems simpler than the present formulation

Can we not include students grandfathered into other neighborhood schools or option schools? Are they not transferred? If not, they are in a kind of black hole, a gap in the rule, and have an ambiguous status.