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August 17, 2023

September, 2024

March 2025,

August 2025

January 2026

STRIDE ACADEMY

SABP 715 ENROLLMENT AND ADMISSIONS

I. PURPOSE

The Academy establishes the following Enrollment and Admissions and Lottery Policy **to ensure full compliance with Minnesota Statutes, including the Minnesota Human Rights Act (§363A.13), Charter School Admissions (§124E.11), Pupil Age Verification (§120A.20), and MARSS reporting requirements.**

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Admission to STRIDE Academy is open to all students, **without discrimination based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, age, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, disability, or any other protected class under Minnesota law**, and without regard to ability or any other factors, other than the capacity of the program, class, grade level, or building.

A charter school shall give enrollment preference to a sibling of an enrolled pupil and to a foster child of that pupil's parents and may give preference for enrolling children of the school's staff before accepting other pupils by lot. A staff member eligible for an enrollment preference must be employed at least 480 hours in a school calendar year.

III. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

1. 2. STRIDE Academy's open enrollment period for the upcoming school year will end on December 15th of the current fiscal year.
2. The Lottery for the upcoming school year will occur on the fourth Tuesday of January.
3. All enrollment forms received after December 15th will be time stamped and added to the waiting list after the lottery in the order received.
4. During the current school year students may submit an application at any time.
5. New student applications must include a completed application, including sibling and non-sibling applicants.
6. Applications are date-stamped and time-stamped or sequentially numbered.

7. Applications received after the open enrollment period expires are admitted if space is available; otherwise they are added to the waiting list.
8. Notice will be provided to currently enrolled families and staff regarding the open enrollment period.
9. **Minnesota residents shall receive enrollment priority over non-Minnesota residents.**
10. **Non-Minnesota residents must reapply each year and do not retain waitlist status.**

IV. AVAILABLE ENROLLMENT

1. Temporary Overenrollment Provision

- a. STRIDE Academy may allow temporary overenrollment of no more than two (2) students per section in each grade level. This provision is permitted only until October 1st of the applicable school year. After October 1st, class sizes must return to the established Board-approved section caps, either through natural attrition or administrative adjustment. At no time will total enrollment for any grade level exceed the maximum number of seats allocated per grade as established in this policy.
- b. Upon consideration of the number of currently-enrolled students at STRIDE Academy, who are each by law provided enrollment preference, the Board of STRIDE Academy establishes the following available enrollment/seats in each grade:
- c. **Homeless students shall be provided with transportation services comparable to those of other students in the charter school. Students qualifying under the McKinney-Vento Act will be admitted regardless of Capacity Space as determined by the board and will be an exception.**

AVAILABLE ENROLLMENT BY GRADE 2025-2026			
Grade	Section Cap	Sections	Seats
K	20	6	120
1	20	6	120
2	22	6	120
3	22	6	120
4	24	5	120
5	24	5	120
6	24	5	120
7	24	5	120

8	24	5	120
Total		43	1080

d.

V. GENERAL ADMISSION PROCEDURES

1. All applications received during the open enrollment period are automatically accepted for enrollment (i.e. admitted) unless more applications are received than the available enrollment established by the Board for the applicable grade(s) are placed in the lottery; however, siblings of currently admitted students (including foster siblings) and children of staff employed in school have preference.
2. Order of Admission: Sibling of already admitted students, then children of staff employed at the school, then general admission.
3. Siblings, including foster siblings, of enrolled students, who submitted a timely application have preference over other students on the waitlist, who submitted a timely application.
4. No waiting list carry over from year to year: Each waiting list is subject to a lottery and redrawn during each admission process each year.
5. 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.
6. Siblings of Admitted Students: Siblings, including foster siblings, who submit an application before the expiration of the open enrollment period, of currently admitted students are automatically admitted unless the number of sibling applications exceeds the available enrollment established by the Board for the applicable grade(s). If the number of sibling applications exceeds available enrollment 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 the lottery. If all available enrollments in a grade are filled by siblings, the sibling lottery continues and establishes the sibling waiting list, which has preference over both the teacher-children waiting list and general waiting list.
7. Children of Staff Employed at STRIDE Academy: Children of 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 already admitted students) who submitted a timely application are admitted, and provided there is available enrollment as determined by the Board for the applicable grade(s). If the number of children of Staff exceeds the available enrollment established by the Board for any grade (and after all siblings (of admitted students) who submitted a timely application are admitted), a teacher-children lottery is held. Children of Staff are admitted to the school in the order in which they are drawn in the lottery. If all available enrollments in a grade are filled by children of Staff, the staff-children lottery continues to establish the teacher-children waiting list for each such grade.

VI. NONRESIDENT AND OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS

1. **STRIDE Academy is not obligated to serve out-of-state residents.**
2. **Out-of-state students shall be reported in MARSS as State Aid Category 15 (ineligible for state funding).**

3. **Tuition may be charged to out-of-state students at a mutually agreed-upon rate.**
4. **Foreign exchange students with a J-1 visa shall be treated as Minnesota residents for enrollment purposes.**

VII. LOTTERY PROCEDURES

1. STRIDE will hold up to three lotteries per grade, K–8, beginning with Grade Eight, based on timely applications* received:
 - a. STRIDE sibling-applicant lottery;
 - b. STRIDE staff-child lottery;
 - c. General applicant lottery.

A lottery only needs to be held if the number of applicants exceeds the capacity of the grade level. STRIDE's lotteries will be conducted using an electronic randomizing process (Microsoft Excel) for each of the grade-levels containing on-time applications. The electronically randomized lists will become the waiting list for each grade, with the randomized list of siblings for a given grade being placed in the first places on the waiting lists, the randomized list of staff-children being placed immediately following the sibling applicants, and the randomized list of general applicants being placed immediately following the staff-children applicants. A charter school shall give enrollment preference to a sibling of an enrolled pupil and to a foster child of that pupil's parents and may give preference for enrolling children of the school's staff before accepting other pupils by lot. — Charter Schools, Minn. Stat. § 124E.11

All applications for each such grade(s) (excluding applications from siblings of already admitted students and excluding applications from children of Staff employed at the school) received before the expiration of the open 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 enrollment as determined by the Board for the applicable grade(s). If all available enrollments in any grade are 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 enrollment as determined by the Board remains in the applicable grade(s).

2. Lottery Grade Order: Applicable lotteries occur from highest grade to lowest grade. For example, if a lottery is required in grades K and 3, the grade 3 lottery is conducted first, followed by the K lottery.
3. The School conducts all lotteries through a method of random selection.

VIII. STUDENT RECRUITMENT

1. STRIDE Academy shall vigorously market itself before and during the enrollment period to recruit students to meet its enrollment goals as set by the board of directors.
2. By a marketing strategy, STRIDE Academy may use specific measures, such as posting flyers and notices in local newspapers and/or blogs and online newspapers, posting the admissions policy and application on the school's website, and utilizing local radio advertisement.

IX. AGE VERIFICATION (Minn. Stat. §120A.20, Subd. 4)

- 1. STRIDE Academy may request documentation verifying age, including a passport, hospital birth record, physician certificate, baptismal certificate, adoption record, health or immunization records, immigration records, previously verified school records, early childhood screening records, Minnesota Immunization Information Connection records, or a parent affidavit.**
 - a. Kindergarten: Students must be age 5 on or before September 1.**
 - b. First Grade: Students must be age 6 by September 1 or have completed kindergarten.**

X. STUDENT WITHDRAWAL AND MARSS REPORTING

- 1. Students absent for 15 consecutive school days without district-approved homebound services shall be withdrawn on the 16th day.**
- 2. If a student enrolls elsewhere, STRIDE shall adjust the Status End Date, Attendance Days, and Membership Days to prevent MARSS overlap.**
- 3. If a withdrawn student returns, a new enrollment record must be created.**
- 4. If a student begins eligible homebound services, a new enrollment record must be created effective the service start date.**

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. §124E.11 (Admission Requirements And Enrollment)
Minn. Stat. §§123B.36-.37 (Authorized Fees; Prohibited Fees)