

Two Rivers Community School Lottery Policies

Enrollment Policy

Pursuant to its mission and vision, the TRCS enrollment policy aims to build strong and lasting ties with all aspects of our community and to embrace its rich cultural diversity. It also intends to be fair and open in how enrollment decisions are made. TRCS ensures equal access to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, language of origin, sexual orientation, sex, or disability.

Enrollment Timing

From January until March each year, TRCS will accept applications for enrollment of new students. Then, in April it will fill any open slots, by class, according to the following enrollment process.

First-priority enrollment

Certain students shall be given first priority in enrolling, meaning that as long as space is available in the class for which they are applying, the application for enrollment shall be automatically accepted. The following applicants shall be given first-priority enrollment:

- Children of the TRCS Founding Team
- Children of teachers and full- and part-time staff of TRCS
- Siblings of existing students

These students are given priority over others in order to help keep families together, as family is a fundamental building block of community.

If at any time the children of TRCS staff and founding members reach or exceed 20% of the total student body, then these children shall no longer be given first priority and shall instead be placed in the open enrollment pool.

Open enrollment

All other applicants shall be placed in an open enrollment pool for each grade level. If the number of applicants for any grade level is less than or equal to the number of remaining openings after the first-priority applicants have been accepted, then all of the remaining applicants for that grade level shall be admitted.

Lottery

If there are more applicants than available openings in any grade, then a lottery shall be held to determine who shall be admitted for that grade.

If needed, the school's first lottery will take place by April 15, 2014. Thereafter, the lottery will take place the first Monday in April of each year. A public official of Glenwood Springs will draw the lottery. After the lottery, all applicants will be notified via phone, email and mail of their status. Students that were not accepted via the

lottery will be placed on a wait list in the order they were drawn. Families have a minimum of three (3) business days to respond to the lottery call.

Wait list

Applicants who were not accepted for admission into TRCS will be placed on a wait list. Applicants qualifying for first-priority enrollment will be placed at the top of the wait list in the order that TRCS received their applications. Applicants who went through a lottery selection shall be prioritized by the date of the lottery after the first-priority applicants. The wait list will be active only for the school year for which the application was submitted and shall not carry forward to subsequent school years.

Definitions

“Founder” is defined as a parent on the TRES Leadership Team that has submitted the charter school application.

“Teachers” are defined as certified teachers who have signed the TRCS employee handbook.

“Staff, either salaried staff, full-time and or part-time” is defined as a person who works for TRCS and has signed the TRCS employee handbook.

Weighted Lottery – March 16th, 2015

Two Rivers Community School will establish a weighted lottery for the 2015-2016 school year enrollment selections. The new lottery will place a weight of “3” to the following educationally disadvantaged student subsets described under section 1115(b)(2) of ESEA which include:

1. English Language Learners
2. Economically Disadvantaged PK-12 students who qualify as FRL students.

TRCS’ mission aims to cultivate in every student:

-Respect for and interest in human diversity through second language acquisition and cross-cultural studies that build a broader world perspective and essential collaboration skills to become leaders in our changing world.

Two Rivers Community School plans to have a student population that will mirror the adjacent school district of Roaring Fork RE-1 which is about 50% second language learners. Another important goal of TRCS is to graduate students with strong bilingual Spanish/English skills. Both goals could better be accomplished by having a significant representation of native Spanish speaking children who are or were second language learners. Once the target population mirrors that of the local school district, these lottery guidelines will be adjusted again to re-consider the weight given to students.

Educationally disadvantaged students will be selected by information provided in the Intent to Enroll forms submitted to the school and by conversations with the parents. For the first year of the weighted lottery, every current and former second language learner will be given a weight of “3” in the lottery. For the following school year selection, the Intent to Enroll forms will also collect financial information and students who qualify for free and reduced lunch will be added to the weighted lottery with a weight of “3” also.

The weight in this lottery may be revised to accommodate for emergent circumstances and will never be used to exclusively serve any particular population.

The TRCS Board of Directors approved the implementation of a weighted lottery at its scheduled meeting on March 16th, 2015.