



MOUNT VERNON WOODS ELEMENTARY

FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

4015 Fielding Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22309
August 24, 2007

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Our school continues to be in Title I School Improvement. During the upcoming school year, our teachers will continue to focus on the individual learning needs of each child in order to increase the academic achievement of all our students.

In the meantime, under NCLB, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is required to offer you the opportunity to transfer your child (or children) to one of two other FCPS schools, designated as "receiving schools." You are not required to move your child. We hope that you and your family will choose to stay at Mount Vernon Woods Elementary for the 2007-08 school year. We are proud of the community that we have built within our school. We are also proud of the programs that are offered and of the success of our students. We will work even harder this school year with the full support of the school system, the parents, and the community to assure the success of all our students.

If you want your child to stay at Mount Vernon Woods, **do not complete** the enclosed Transfer Option Application. If you want to transfer your child (or children) to one of the receiving schools, please find the enclosed information about this transfer option and details on how you may apply. The receiving schools were chosen based on transportation time and distance from our school and space availability. Please understand that a student may be assigned to his or her second choice school, a child's ride to school may be longer, and, in a few cases, transportation may not be available in the first weeks of school. **All requests to transfer (or move) your child must be received at Mount Vernon Woods Elementary by September 7, 2007.**

If you would like more information about the transfer option, I invite you to a meeting on Wednesday, August 29, 2007, at 6:00 p.m., at Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School. There is also information about the transfer option on our own school web site (www.fcps.edu/MountVernonWoodsES). If you have questions specific to your child, please call me at 703-619-2800. We want to be sure that all your questions are answered.

For students who remain at Mount Vernon Woods and who are eligible for free and reduced price lunch, there is an additional option. Supplemental educational services (SES), which include tutoring services, after-school remediation services, and on-line tutoring services, are available. A letter explaining the supplemental educational services program will be sent to the parents of eligible students in late September. The letter will include a list of state-approved providers, information about each provider, and an application for services.

We hope you will choose to stay at Mount Vernon Woods. We look forward to working with you in the new school year and very much want you to be part of our community.

Sincerely,

Marie Lemmon
Principal

Enclosures: Q&A School Transfer Option
Transfer Option Application
School Fact Sheets

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
QUESTIONS CONCERNING TRANSFER OPTION
(Q&A enclosure with parent letter)

1. Do I have to transfer (or move) my child to another school?
No. You should base your decision on what you think is best for your child. We are providing parents with this option as required by federal law. The decision to transfer (or move) your child is entirely up to you. If you wish to remain at your present school, please do **not** return the Transfer Option Application.
2. What if I want my child to remain at his or her current school?
Do **not** complete the Transfer Option Application. We look forward to seeing your child at our school.
3. Does this mean that my child's current school is not a good school?
No. Our school has met the highest level of state and local standards. The teachers and staff are excellent, dedicated individuals. We are proud of the community that we have built within our school. We are also proud of the programs that are offered and of the success of our students. Your present school may well have the best program for your child.
4. Is my child guaranteed a place in one of the receiving schools?
The law requires that this transfer option be offered to all families in the school, but the school district has limited resources available to pay for this transfer option. We may not be able to transfer (or move) every child to the family's first choice, nor may we be able to provide transportation. (See question #6.)
5. How will students be chosen for the transfer option?
Under federal law, we must give first priority to the lowest achieving, low income students. Achievement will be determined by test scores in math and/or English/reading, or—if these are not available—the latest report card grades. Income will be based on the student's eligibility for free or reduced price lunch in the National School Lunch Program.
6. How will my child get to a receiving school?
Your child will be transported from your neighborhood to the receiving school approved for your child for as many years as your current school does not make Adequate Yearly Progress on the Standards of Learning tests. You should know that in most cases, a student attending a receiving school will have a longer bus ride than a student attending the current neighborhood school.

Families opting to transfer (or move) their child will be notified regarding the transportation start date, the new bus stop, pick-up and drop-off times, and new school bell schedule. Transportation to the receiving school may not be available until the middle or end of September.

When your current school meets its Adequate Yearly Progress goals for two years under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law, busing to a receiving school will no longer be provided. In that case, your child may continue to attend the new school, but you must provide transportation.

7. If I transfer my child, where will my child attend middle school?
When your child is ready to attend middle school, he or she will be enrolled at the neighborhood middle school based on your home address as if you had never transferred. Middle school students are not included in the transfer option.
8. How do I apply for the transfer option?
If you decide you want to transfer (or move) your child to one of the receiving schools listed on the Transfer Option Application, you must return the attached application form to your school indicating your first and second choice **no later than September 7, 2007**. Additional applications are available at your child's current school and on the school web site.
9. When will I know if my transfer application is approved?
The district will mail approval letters to parents on September 8, 2007, with information regarding your child's school assignment and whether transportation will be provided. That letter will contain a final confirmation form that parents must complete and return by September 14, 2007. **If you wish to have your child start school on the first day of school (September 4, 2007), please return your confirmation form as soon as you receive it. You may fax it to 703-846-8685.**
10. If I transfer (or move) my child to one of the receiving schools, is my child eligible for supplemental educational services?
No. Only students who remain enrolled at Mount Vernon Woods and who are on free or reduced lunch are eligible for supplemental educational services. Additional information will be sent to parents of eligible students in late September.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TITLE I TRANSFER OPTION APPLICATION
2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR**

If you want your child to stay at his or her current school, **you do not need to do anything.** Your child should report to his or her current school.

If you wish to transfer your child for the 2007-2008 school year, complete this application and return **no later than September 7, 2007**, to your child's school.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY OR TYPE:

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Current Elementary School: _____

Name(s) of children that you would like to transfer (or move):

Name _____ Grade _____ Student ID # _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Student ID # _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Student ID # _____

Next to each school listed below, please circle your first and second preference of schools for your child or children to attend in 2007-2008.

Island Creek first choice second choice

Hayfield first choice second choice

Please include the following information:

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION TO YOUR CHILD'S CURRENT SCHOOL.

Applications must be returned by September 7, 2007, to be considered for fall enrollment in the new school you have selected. Notification of your child's assignment and availability of transportation will be mailed on September 8, 2007.