2020-21
SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT ZONE
Greetings, Denver Public Schools family! DPS believes all families should have equitable access to schools they feel are best for their students, regardless of where they live in Denver. As a resident of the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone, your child is guaranteed a place at one of the following schools for the 2020-21 school year:

› **BEAR VALLEY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** *(6 to 8)*  
› **DSST: HENRY** *(6 to 8)*  
› **KUNSMILLER CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY** *(K to 12)*  
  Requires additional qualification steps, please contact school for details.  
› **STRIVE PREP – FEDERAL** *(6 to 8)*

Even though you reside in this enrollment zone and have guaranteed access to one of these four schools, you may select any school in the district when completing the SchoolChoice application.

There are many factors to consider as you research school options, including academic programs, extracurricular activities, transportation and school culture. Regardless of the path you choose, DPS is committed to serving as your partner in this important journey.

Look inside for overviews of all the schools in the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone, as well as other information to help you make your decision for next year.

To apply to your preferred schools during Round 1 of SchoolChoice, your completed SchoolChoice application must be submitted between 8:30 a.m. Jan. 15 and 4 p.m. Feb. 18, 2020. Notification of your student’s 2020-21 school year assignment and/or waitlist information will be sent in late March 2020.

If you have any questions during the SchoolChoice process, please contact Choice and Enrollment Services:

**SOUTHWEST ENROLLMENT CENTER**  
1300 S. Lowell Blvd., Door 10  
Denver, CO 80219  
**PHONE:** 720-423-3493  
**WEB:** schoolchoice.dpsk12.org  
**EMAIL:** schoolchoice@dpsk12.org

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**SCHOOL EXPOS**

Learn more about SchoolChoice, the DPS enrollment process, and discover great DPS schools!

**NORTHWEST EXPO**  
Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2020  
6 to 8 p.m.  
North High School  
2960 Speer Blvd.

**SOUTHWEST EXPO**  
Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020  
6 to 8 p.m.  
Abraham Lincoln High School  
2285 S. Federal Blvd.

Visit [www.dpsk12.org/expo](http://www.dpsk12.org/expo) for the full expo schedule.
What are my student’s options for the 2020-21 school year?

Students living within the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone are guaranteed a spot at one of the following schools: Bear Valley International School; DSST: Henry; Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy; and STRIVE Prep – Federal.

If you reside in the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone, you should complete and submit your student’s SchoolChoice application anytime between 8:30 a.m. Jan. 15 and 4 p.m. Feb. 18, 2020. You will be asked to rank your top school preferences within the Southwest Middle School Enrollment Zone and/or any DPS school, including those in other regions. We recommend listing multiple preferences, up to a limit of 12. Based on the school preferences you indicate, your student will be awarded a seat at his or her highest-preference school with available space.

How do I submit the SchoolChoice application?

The application will be available at schoolchoice.dpsk12.org. We recommend using your Parent Portal username and password to sign in. You can submit your application anytime between 8:30 a.m. Jan. 15 and 4 p.m. Feb. 18, 2020. There is no advantage to submitting your application earlier in the window.

When will I be notified of my student’s school enrollment for the 2020-21 school year?

Notification of your school assignment and/or waitlist information for the 2020-21 school year will be sent in late March 2020.

What if my student does not get his or her first-preference school?

If your student is assigned to a school other than your first-choice school, his or her name will be placed on a waitlist for that school, as well as any others ranked higher than the assigned school. When and if space becomes available, the school will contact you to see if you would like to accept a seat in their program. Please note: waitlists are dynamic, meaning your waitlist positions can move up or down based on the actions and priorities of all other applicants.

What if I do not submit a SchoolChoice application for my student?

Any student who does not submit an application by the Feb. 18 deadline will remain unassigned and will have an opportunity to participate in Round 2.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

If you have any questions about SchoolChoice, please call the SchoolChoice Hotline at 720-423-3493, email schoolchoice@dpsk12.org, or visit schoolchoice.dpsk12.org.
Transportation Services’ mission is to provide safe, efficient and effective service that is valued and useful to our students and families. We strive to provide greater access to education for our students and foster an environment where Every Child Succeeds. Safety is our No. 1 priority. Our service offerings reflect DPS’ priorities, and are designed to meet the needs of our unique school models and programs in an equitable manner.

Transportation will be provided in accordance to District Policy EEAA. Students who reside and attend school in the Southwest Middle School Zone, and live more than 2.5 miles from their school, will receive transportation through the Southwest Express to the following schools:

› Bear Valley International School
› DSST: Henry

Please Note: Transportation-eligible students attending Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy will receive standard bus route services. For STRIVE Prep – Federal, transportation is provided through the West Enrollment Zone service.

The complete transportation system, including pick-up and drop-off times and locations is designed based on the following considerations:

› Supporting families in attending their school of choice
› School bell times
› Special education students’ pick-up and drop-off needs
› Traffic patterns and travel time
› Consistency with districtwide transportation policies

Bus stop information will be available to families through the Parent Portal and the school office beginning in late summer. Details will also be sent to families in the transportation yearly mailer that is sent to families in late July/early August. Families should ensure they have updated contact information on file with their school’s front office as well as in Infinite Campus.
ACADEMIC GAPS
Ensuring our schools are serving all students well is an important area of focus on the SPF.

We are especially concerned about closing opportunity gaps for our students who have been historically underserved in our nation’s public schools, including students of color, students in poverty, English language learners and students with disabilities. That’s why each school will receive an Academic Gaps rating that directly affects their overall SPF rating.

Schools are only eligible to receive our highest ratings of Distinguished [blue] or Meets Expectations [green] if it earns a blue or green rating on Academic Gaps.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

WEB: spf.dpsk12.org
EMAIL: spf@dpsk12.org

Knowing how well schools are serving students and families is a key part of how we will reach our Denver Plan 2020 goal of Great Schools in Every Neighborhood. The School Performance Framework, or SPF, measures many important aspects of what we know makes a great school, such as:

- Student and parent satisfaction
- Improved scores on state tests from year to year
- How well the school serves and challenges all of its students

The SPF is like a report card for schools that lets us know where a school is making progress and where we need to focus on improving. Please keep in mind that SPF is just one factor in deciding which school is best for your student.

Our school report card puts special emphasis on student academic growth, or how much progress students have made from one year to the next. In DPS, we believe what is most important is not where kids start, but how much they grow.

How are schools rated?
We use a color-coded rating scale to show at-a-glance how schools are performing, ranging from our highest rating, Distinguished [blue], to our lowest rating, Accredited on Probation [red]. In DPS, we have high expectations for all of our schools, to make sure our students are prepared for college, career and life when they graduate from DPS.

2019 SPF RATINGS
SPF ratings for each school are depicted in this guide using the graphic shown below. The top bar of the graphic refers to a school’s overall rating; the bottom bar refers to student academic growth.

OVERALL > Meets Expectations
GROWTH > Meets Expectations
BEAR VALLEY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Offering a wide continuum of interventions and opportunities for acceleration, BVIS will provide personalized learning, one-to-one technology and Spanish language acquisition for all students. As a candidate* for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP), BVIS students will have the opportunity to gain international perspective through community service and hands-on learning experiences. *Only schools authorized by the International Baccalaureate can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted.

PROGRAMS:
AVID • Honors Courses • IB • International Focus • Career and Technical Education • Music • Personalized Learning • PE • Service Learning • Spanish • STEM • Technology • Visual Arts • Student Leadership • Multi-Intensive Center-Based Program

2019 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK RATINGS:
OVERALL > Accredited on Watch
GROWTH > Meets Expectations

SCHOOL OFFERINGS:
Southwest Express
Breakfast served daily
Lunch served daily
Uniform: School logo or gray, black, white or navy top; gray, black, khaki, blue or denim pants (with no rips or holes; no hoodies)
English as a Second Language
Student schedule*: 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.
*Subject to change
DSST: HENRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

DSST: Henry, a part of Denver’s distinguished DSST Public Schools network, is committed to providing a world-class education to prepare all students for success in college and life. We do this by structuring our sixth- to 12th-grade learning environment so that students learn and apply the skills, behaviors, values and mindsets that are vital to happiness and success. Our students develop a strong sense of self while learning to contribute to a caring and diverse community.

PROGRAMS:
Music • PE • STEM • Academic Club or Competition • Arts or Music Club • Community Service • Social Clubs • Student Leadership • Affective Needs Center-Based Program

2019 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK RATINGS:
OVERALL > Accredited on Watch
GROWTH > Approaching Expectations

SCHOOL OFFERINGS:
Southwest Express
Breakfast served daily
Lunch served daily
Uniform: School logo top in black, burgundy or gray; khaki or black pants, jeans or dress pants; black or brown belt; black, brown or white closed-toe shoe
English as a Second Language
Student schedule*: 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (1:30 p.m. on Thursdays)
*Subject to change
KUNSMILLER CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY
Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy is a magnet school designed to prepare students in kindergarten through 12th grade for creative and artistic careers while also providing a rigorous college-prep education. All students explore theater arts, 2- and 3-D visual arts, media arts, instrumental and vocal music and dance. Prospective students must attend enrollment events. Contact the school for more information.

PRINCIPAL: Peter Castillo
720-424-0200
kcaa.dpsk12.org
2250 S. Quitman Way

GRADES SERVED: K to 12
ESTIMATED ENROLLMENT: 935

PROGRAMS:
Kindergarten English and Spanish • Arts Focus • ASCENT • Fine Arts • Honors Courses • PE • Spanish • Visual Arts • Academic Club or Competition • CareerConnect • Arts or Music Club • Yearbook or Newspaper • Student Leadership • Denver Health School-Based Health Center

2019 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK RATINGS:

OVERALL > Accredited on Watch

GROWTH > Approaching Expectations

SCHOOL OFFERINGS:

- RTD Bus Pass, Standard Bus Routes
- No uniform required
- Afterschool Programming
- English as a Second Language
- Breakfast served daily
- Student schedule*: 8:30 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.
- Lunch served daily
*Subject to change
STRIVE PREP – FEDERAL
STRIVE Prep is where every student is learning to change the world. Every day we inspire our students to think critically, communicate clearly and collaborate openly, both in and outside of the classroom. By balancing ambitious learning with celebration and joy, we fuel a sense of curiosity, creativity and possibility in every child. At STRIVE Prep, students can explore many opportunities to develop the confidence and skills necessary for success in college and beyond.

PROGRAMS:
PE • Technology • Visual Arts • Social Clubs • Student Leadership • Multi-Intensive Center-Based Program

2019 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK RATINGS:
OVERALL > Meets Expectations
GROWTH > Exceeds Expectations

SCHOOL OFFERINGS:
- West Enrollment Zone service
- Uniform: Navy school polo or sweater; jeans, black jeans or khaki pants (no hoodies)
- Breakfast served daily
- English as a Second Language
- Lunch served daily
- Student schedule*: 7:50 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (1:40 p.m. on Fridays)
  *Subject to change
SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL ZONE MAP