

## Proposal: Equity in High School Admissions

Lisa Jeanne Graf, Dec., 2020

High School admissions would have equal access for all students (with each school setting aside the same percentage of seats for students with 504 and I.E.P. plans). All highschools would be inclusion schools, including the Latin schools and the O'Bryant School. There would be one application process for all schools including Exam schools and Pilot schools.

The application process would not include a test. A portfolio or audition for the Arts Academy would not be required for admittance as all students would have access to the arts.

Seats at Pilot schools, Exam schools and Open Enrollment schools would be decided through the lottery.

Currently Pilot schools also have selective admissions which is causing open enrollment schools to have larger percentages of students with high needs. This causes problems with funding as these open enrollment schools are often under enrolled, which then affects school budgets, which then affects student outcomes.

Access to seats at the Exam schools would be decided through the lottery and with:

- a percentage of students from different zip codes and/or schools.
- A percentage of students from the zip codes and schools with the lowest current admittance being assigned first.

In addition ALL schools would meet state standards, and offer AP courses, etc.. All schools would offer course offerings comparable to Exam schools. All schools would offer libraries with librarians and arts programming as well.

Also the exam school curriculum would remain unchanged (except to make additions like including more arts programming, and include history from more cultures). All schools would offer excellence for all with the savings from cutting down on testing (including eliminating the terra nova test). Each school would provide access to a curriculum that would prepare interested students for the curriculum at the Exam schools.

The end result would be less tracking, less segregation and more equity. In addition there would be more funding available for all school budgets.