

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE INFORMATION SUMMARY

Students in grades 8-11 may apply to attend other public high schools. For more information and the application process on this, please contact your guidance department, or Mike Alexander, Director of Guidance, Fair Haven Union High School.

Important dates and deadlines are listed below:

- February 26, 2016: Applications are due at the current public school of residence
- March 1 – 31: Selection of students to participate; lotteries; waiting lists.
- April 1: Notice to students of selection, denial, or waiting list status.
- By April 15: Students inform schools of residence of their decisions; decisions should be communicated to receiving school right away.

ATTENTION: 8TH Grade Parents/Students

ACT 129 of 2012: PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL CHOICE IN GRADES 9-12

The first public high school choice law, Act 150, was passed in 2000. It required each high school to join with at least one other school to form a choice region. Students were allowed to attend only schools within the region. In Act 129 of 2012, the legislature made school choice statewide by allowing students to apply to attend any other high school in the state, effective in School Year 2013-2014. Schools are allowed to limit the number of students who may transfer from a school, with a cap of 10 percent of resident students or 40, whichever is smaller; schools may set higher limits. Schools are also required to determine annually their capacity to receive students, using a variety of criteria, although there are no numerical or percentage formula. If more students want to transfer out – or enroll into – a school than there are places available, nondiscriminatory lotteries are used. The law provides no funding for transportation, and, unless schools agree otherwise, no tuition or other charges changes hands. Act 129 of 2012 is included in Vermont's Statutes, at Title 16, Section 822a.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT MIKE ALEXANDER, DIRECTOR OF GUIDANCE AT FAIR HAVE UNION HIGH SCHOOL.