

WINDHAM SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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Halifax Readsboro Searsburg Stamford Whitingham Wilmington

Dear Parents/Guardians,

January 29, 2016

In accordance with state law, the Twin Valley School Board has adopted a school choice program for the **2016-2017** school year. Under this program a small number of students entering grades 9 through 12 may be able to enroll as full-time students in high schools in other communities. Students who enroll under this program would be allowed to remain as full-time students at the receiving school until graduation. Below are answers to some basic questions you might have. For further information please visit the VT AOE website, or contact Mr. Fitzgerald, Principal TVMHS.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Any child residing in Whitingham or Wilmington who would be in grades 9 through 12 for the **2016-2017** school year.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A FULL-TIME STUDENT? Your child would be enrolled as though he/she was a resident student of that community. He/she would be eligible to participate, on an equal basis, in all school programs both academic and extracurricular.

CAN MY CHILD ATTEND ANY OTHER SCHOOL THROUGH THIS PROGRAM? In accordance with Vermont Law, beginning in the school year 2013-2014 this program is available for all Vermont public high schools. **Applications for public high school students residing in the communities in the southern section of Vermont are now available. For details and an application you may contact your local middle/ high school principal or your local Superintendent of Schools.**

MY CHILD RECEIVES SPECIAL SERVICES. IS HE/SHE ELIGIBLE? Yes. All students are eligible. Any excess costs involved in providing services to your child will be paid by your home district.

WHAT IF MORE STUDENTS APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION THAN THERE ARE SPACES AVAILABLE? Under the agreement, there are limits placed on both the number of students who can leave a school as well as the number of students who can be accepted into a school. If the number of applicants exceeds any of these limits, participating students will be selected by a blind lottery. **Individual schools involved in this agreement will make public its school limitations for transferring in or out of that respective school.**

WILL TRANSPORTATION BE PROVIDED? No. Transportation to a non-resident school is the responsibility of the parent.

ARE THERE TIME DEADLINES? Yes. Application to transfer to a non-resident school must be made **NO LATER THAN February 13, 2016, without exception, of the year preceding the year that this agreement is applicable.**

MY CHILD IS ALREADY ENROLLED IN ANOTHER SCHOOL UNDER SCHOOL CHOICE. DO I NEED TO DO ANYTHING? No. **Your child is not affected by this year's selection process.**

HOW DOES MY CHILD APPLY? Application forms are available at the Twin Valley Middle-High School offices and at the Office of the Superintendent, and online at <http://www.windhamsw.k12.vt.us>, found under the WSSU Information link. **Completed applications should be returned to the school office on or before the above deadline of Friday, February 13, 2016.**

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT any of these HIGH SCHOOLS? To receive a program of studies and other written information about each school, or to arrange for a visit for you and/or your child contact the Guidance Office at the TVMHS, 368-2880.

Sincerely,

Christopher Pratt
Superintendent of Schools