



Hephzibah Elementary School

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Hephzibah, GA 30815
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<https://www.rcboe.org/hes>

Dr. Josh Workman
Principal

Mrs. Tynisha Brisco
Assistant Principal

PYP Admission Policy

Statement of Belief

Hephzibah Elementary is an International Baccalaureate World School in the Primary Years Program (PYP). The PYP is a transdisciplinary, inquiry based program used to teach conceptual ideas through a global lens. All students in the Hephzibah Elementary school attendance zone participate in the International Baccalaureate PYP program. Hephzibah Elementary is also a school choice for students who live in the Richmond County School System (RCSS) district and outside of the school zone. Out of zone students must meet the school system requirements to be considered for Hephzibah Elementary's IB PYP program. Hephzibah Elementary also recognizes House Bill 251 for admission. For additional information, please [click here](#) to view the Richmond County School System School Choice Guide.

Zone Exemption Request

Conditions of Transfer Request

- A. Students requesting a transfer from one attendance zone to another within the Richmond County school district may apply for the transfer through the Superintendent's office. Applications may be completed at <https://schoolchoice.rcss-k12.org>. The response will be to the email provided on the application within 3-5 business days of receipt of the application.
- B. Any school that is above 90% of their enrollment capacity is not eligible for consideration for students who are out of zone. In addition, any newly opened school is not eligible for school choice for a period of four years.
- C. Acceptable behavior, arriving and being picked up in accordance with the school's time schedule, and attendance are required in order for exceptions to remain valid.
- D. Transfers may be approved for extreme hardships ((Medical, Financial, and Bullying (with Bullying Packet) - (please attach documentation with completed application)) pending space availability. If space becomes an issue, students with zone exceptions must return to their zoned school.

E. Transfers are not considered for the following:

Grievances arising from parent-school conflicts

Peer group associations

Discipline and/or attendance problems

General dissatisfaction with a particular school

F. ALL Attendance Zones for students attending the public schools of Richmond County will be enforced in accordance with federal desegregation requirements (Policy JBCC).

G. Bus transportation is not furnished to transfer students.

H. The principal has the discretion to withdraw any student not meeting the above conditions.

I. School choice without hardships is available each year through House Bill 251. The application period for House Bill 251 is open annually from November 1 through May 1.

House Bill 251

Under a 2009 state law (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2131), parents may request a transfer to another public school within their local school district to specified schools and grades designated as possibly having space available. In the RCSS, any school with an enrollment below 90% capacity will be considered a participating school.

Please keep in mind that if a parent chooses to transfer a child to another school in the system, the law requires that they assume all costs and responsibilities related to the transportation of the child to, and from, the school as long as the child remains at that school. If a parent does not enroll their child/children in the school that they were approved to attend by the first week of school, the House Bill 251 approval becomes obsolete.

A student who transfers to another school under this law may continue to attend that school until the student completes all grades of the school. A transferring student who completes all grades available at the receiving school will not be automatically eligible to attend the feeder middle or high school. A new transfer application must be submitted.

In addition, any change of school placement which is not the result of a bona fide change of residence may impact a student's eligibility to participate in Georgia High School

Association sanctioned varsity activities and events for a period of one calendar year. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for investigating and determining such impact on eligibility and thereafter making an individual decision about the consequences of accepting a permissive transfer if approved.

Applications for HB251 may be completed each year from November 1st - May 1st.

Resources:

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