




LOWER TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY DISTRICT

905 Seashore Road
 Cape May, New Jersey 08204
 District grades: Preschool - 6
 Approved Choice grades: Kindergarten - 6
 Number of students enrolled in district: 1,828

 Parent Information: 609-884-9400 ext. 2604

 Program Contact: Leigh Ann Downie

 E-mail: choice@lowertwpschools.com

 Website: www.lowertwpschools.com

CHOICE PROGRAM:

The Lower Township School District is Cape May County's largest elementary school system offering comprehensive, quality educational programs and services. A positive and productive school climate built on high behavioral expectations and rigorous academic goals assisting all students to meet the NJ Core Curriculum Standards and the Common Core State Standards.

Students participate in comprehensive social skills lessons and pledge to respect each other's right to be physically and emotionally safe each day. Our anti-bullying message is reinforced through a variety of activities and projects that promote and reward positive behaviors and discourage negative conduct in all school settings. An annual on-going theme in each school is *Kindness and Respect for Ourselves, Others and the School*.

Technology integration in the classroom increases every year as reading, math, social studies, and science materials are provided in both written text and e-text enabling students and parents to access student materials in school or at home. Wireless connectivity is available throughout the district. This year, all K thru 6th grade students have classrooms equipped with interactive technology instruction.

Kindergarten through 6th grades have daily special area instruction in art, music, physical education, library/media and technology/STEM taught by visual and performing arts specialists.

Recognizing the importance of developing the whole individual, additional programs are offered at specific grade levels. Vocal or Instrumental music programs include chorus, band and strings. Field trips and cultural activities incorporated at each grade level connect curriculum enrichment and foster the development of leadership skills

The district offers before- and after-school day care programs, participates in the National School Lunch Program, and provides Free Breakfast for all students. It is immediately evident to anyone visiting our schools that the focus is on student achievement and a positive learning environment. All school facilities are safe, well maintained and provide an accepting environment where individuals are treated with respect and dignity.

Choice Seats Available for 2017-18 School Year
The purpose of this profile is to inform parents of choice seat availability before the application deadline of Dec. 1, 2016. After the deadline, the information will be outdated.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF NEW STUDENTS THAT CAN BE ENROLLED:	
12 Total	
<i>NOTE: LOWER TOWNSHIP HAS MORE SEATS AVAILABLE THAN WE ARE ABLE TO ACCEPT. A GROUP LOTTERY WILL BE HELD AND A WAITLIST DEVELOPED IF MORE THAN THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF APPLICANTS ARE RECEIVED.</i>	
Grades	Seat availability
K	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
12 openings in the Choice Program for the 2017-18 SY.	

DISTRICT CHOICE POLICIES	Yes/No
A. THE DISTRICT ACCEPTS TIER 2 STUDENTS.	YES
B. THE DISTRICT GIVES ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE SIBLINGS CURRENTLY ATTENDING THE CHOICE DISTRICT, PROVIDED THEY WILL ENROLL IN A CHOICE-APPROVED GRADE/PROGRAM AND THEY MEET ALL PROGRAM-SPECIFIC CRITERIA	YES PROVIDED SPACE IS AVAILABLE
C. THE DISTRICT GIVES ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE TO CHOICE STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE TERMINAL GRADE OF THE SENDING DISTRICT (I.E., STUDENTS WHO ATTEND A CHOICE DISTRICT WITH GRADES THAT TERMINATE BEFORE 12 TH GRADE AND WITH A NATURAL PROGRESSION TO THIS CHOICE DISTRICT).	NOT APPLICABLE
D. THE DISTRICT GIVES ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE TO RESIDENT STUDENTS WHO MOVE BEFORE THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. IF RESIDENT DISTRICT STUDENTS MOVE AND FILE CHOICE APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE, THE DISTRICT WILL GIVE THEM PREFERENCE (I.E., ACCEPT THEM AHEAD OF OTHER APPLICANTS) PROVIDED THAT THERE ARE CHOICE SEATS AVAILABLE IN THE CHOICE-APPROVED GRADES/PROGRAMS AND THE STUDENTS MEET ANY PROGRAM-SPECIFIC CRITERIA. IF THE DISTRICT HAS ALREADY REACHED ITS APPROVED CHOICE ENROLLMENT MAXIMUM, THIS PREFERENCE WILL NOT APPLY.	YES
E. THE DISTRICT GIVES SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO RESIDENT STUDENTS WHO MOVE AFTER THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. STUDENTS IN THIS SITUATION MAY APPLY AS LATE APPLICANTS, PROVIDED THAT THERE ARE CHOICE SEATS AVAILABLE IN THE CHOICE-APPROVED GRADES/PROGRAMS AND THE STUDENTS MEET THIS PROGRAM-SPECIFIC CRITERIA. IF THE DISTRICT HAS ALREADY REACHED ITS APPROVED CHOICE ENROLLMENT MAXIMUM, THIS SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WILL NOT APPLY.	YES

TRANSPORTATION NOTE TO PARENTS:

TRANSPORTATION OF CHOICE STUDENTS IS NOT GUARANTEED. IF CHOICE PARTICIPANT STUDENTS OR NEWLY ACCEPTED CHOICE STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSPORTATION (WITHIN 2 TO 20 MILES OF THE SCHOOL) AND THE COST WILL EXCEED \$884, THE PARENT/GUARDIAN WILL BE GIVEN \$884 AS AID IN LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION AND, IN SOME CASES, THE OPTION OF RECEIVING TRANSPORTATION AND PAYING THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OVER \$884. BY AUGUST 1, 2017, PARENTS OF CHOICE STUDENTS SHOULD RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF THEIR TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FROM THE RESIDENT DISTRICT. FOR MORE INFORMATION, READ THE TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES FOR CHOICE STUDENTS PLEASE REFER TO THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE.