



# 2017-2018 Comprehensive Student Assignment Review

## The Role of Student Assignment Goals



The student assignment goals are **aspirational**.  
The student assignment plan will be **operational**.

Defining student assignment goals is the first step in the Board of Education's comprehensive student assignment review process. The goals reflect the Board's long term aspirations or hopes for a student assignment plan and frame what an ideal plan should do to maximize academic achievement by every student in every school. The goals do not represent the plan itself nor are they a signal that the Board has made any decisions about how it will achieve or operationalize the goals.

The goals are not listed in any prioritized order and, in some cases, may appear to compete with each other. This is intentional. The goals should be viewed together in order to promote rich discussion about the many possible options and approaches the Board may explore as the student assignment plan is developed.



### Approved student assignment goals

The Board believes a plan that promotes its vision and mission will, to the extent possible:

**Provide choice and promote equitable access**  
to varied and viable programmatic options for all children

**Maximize efficiency**  
in the use of school facilities, transportation and other capital and operational resources to reduce overcrowding

**Reduce**  
the number of schools with high concentrations of poor and high-needs children

**Provide school assignment options**  
to students assigned to schools that are not meeting performance standards established by the state

**Preserve and expand schools and programs**  
in which students are successfully achieving the mission and vision of the Board



**Provide choice and promote equitable access to varied and viable programmatic options for all children**

- All families want to provide their children with a high quality education that helps them reach their full academic potential.
- To prepare every student for college and career success, we must provide equitable access to schools and programs that meet students where they are academically and socially and satisfy their unique needs and interests.
- It is our goal to provide every family with a choice of options to meet their needs.

**Maximize efficiency in the use of school facilities, transportation and other capital and operational resources to reduce overcrowding**

- Student enrollment in CMS continues to grow. Since 2009, more than 12,000 new students have enrolled in our schools.
- CMS operating costs (such as utilities, health insurance and retirement) are increasing, placing more pressure on other operating dollars and resources to meet the growing needs of our students and support new programs.
- Almost 80 percent of our schools\* are over capacity and nearly half were built more than 50 years ago.

*\*This excludes mobile classrooms.*

**Reduce the number of schools with high concentrations of poor and high-needs children**

- At CMS, we believe all students can learn at high levels. It doesn't matter if they live in wealthy, middle class or low income communities.
- We also know, and research confirms, students in schools with lower levels of poverty are more likely to succeed academically than students in schools with high poverty levels.
- Schools with high concentrations of poverty tend to have higher teacher turnover and a greater concentration of less experienced teachers.

**Provide school assignment options to students assigned to schools that are not meeting performance standards established by the state**

- Every CMS student deserves access to a high performing school.
- An effective student assignment plan must continue to support students who are succeeding academically and consider additional academic options and flexibilities to support students who are not yet meeting academic standards.

**Preserve and expand schools and programs in which students are successfully achieving the mission and vision of the Board**

- CMS has a broad range of traditional schools, alternative schools and magnet programs in full or partial magnet schools.
- In order to strengthen academic achievement for all students, the Board will strive to maintain the schools and programs currently achieving successful academic outcomes for students and expand them to increase access for more students.

