

Frequently Asked Questions

What is BSCSD?

Ballston Spa Central School District. All children within the BSCSD boundaries may attend the Ballston Spa Schools. There are four Elementary schools: Gordon Creek (GC), Milton Terrace (MT), Wood Road (WR) and Malta Avenue (MA). There is one Middle School (BSMS) and one High School (BSHS).

How do I know what elementary school my child will attend?

Elementary schools are assigned by home zones. Generally, the northern area of the district is zoned for Milton Terrace and Wood Road schools, while the southern area of the district is Malta Avenue and Gordon Creek schools. Within each zone, there are Swing Zones. Homes which fall in swing zones are assigned based on numbers of students in each school. Your child's school will be assigned and confirmed once they are registered. Students with special needs will be placed by the Special Ed Department based on services. To find out what zone a home is in, please call the Registration Office.

What is "The Complex?"

Three of our elementary schools are located together on district property along Rt 67. Wood Road Elementary School and Milton Terrace Elementary School are connected to each other. Gordon Creek Elementary School is located directly behind Milton Terrace. These schools together make up "The Complex." Malta Avenue Elementary School is located within the village of Ballston Spa.

Will my children attend the same school?

BSCSD will place siblings together. There are exceptions to this is if there is a SPED placement of one or more children in the family. There may be additional circumstances, based on family needs.

Do you have before and after school care?

The district does not provide before or after school care. The Ballston Area Community Center and the Malta YMCA both rent space and offer before and after school care in our buildings at The Complex. Ballston Area Community Center also has a location directly behind Malta Avenue School. In order to secure a spot for your child, you must contact these organizations directly.

What is Schooltool?

Schooltool is the system which our school district uses for the data base of all our students. Schooltool is used by school staff for grades, attendance, mailings, school blasts, emergency contacts and transportation addresses. It is important that the information (numbers, emails, addresses) are always up to date. This information may be updated through the building secretaries and the Registrar only. Parents also use Schooltool to check grades, attendance and assignments in the middle school and high school.

How do buses work? (I have heard of a Transfer Bus. What is that?)

Bus routes are set up by the Router in the Transportation Department. Bus pick up and drop offs are set up for your child's home to their school, unless a Transportation Change Request is completed and sent in to the Router. If there is a Daycare or dual home within the district boundaries, then bussing can be

set up for your child, If the Transportation form is submitted. At times, students will be placed on a transfer bus, due to the routes that the busses drive. Transfer busses take students from Malta Ave School to The Complex and from The Complex to Malta Ave.

What if I use a Daycare?

If you will have your child in a before or after school program, you must submit the Transportation Change Request form to the Transportation Department when registering your child for Kindergarten, or as soon as you have the daycare in place. Late forms will result in a delay of your child having the proper busing for their correct pick up and drop off locations.

What if I move within the district?

Once you are enrolled and your child is placed in their school, if you move within the district and it changes your school zone your child may finish out the semester in the current school, then they will be transferred to the school where the new home is located to start the following semester. Changes in schools will always take into consideration special education needs, space within a school/grade and special circumstances. A Change of Address form will need to be filled out in order to change an address in Schooltool and in Transportation.

What if I move outside of the district?

Ballston Spa does not offer tuition based enrollment. All students attending Ballston Spa schools must have a parent or legal guardian who lives in the district. If you move out of Ballston Spa School District, your child is not eligible to attend Ballston Spa schools.

What is McKinney-Vento? What if I am Temporarily Housed?

McKinney-Vento (M-V) is a law which covers families and children who have lost housing or are in temporary housing. The law is designed to provide stability for a child's education when their home life may be disrupted. Every school in NYS has an M-V Liaison who is available to families who may need help and direction due to housing loss. Ballston Spa's M-V Liaison is located in the HS Guidance Office and each of the elementary schools have a school counselor who may be contacted for questions.

Is there an Orientation for the Kindergarteners?

All the Ballston Spa elementary schools offer a Kindergarten Orientation at their building. It is generally two or three days before the start of the school year. Details are given to the families directly from their school in the summer months.