

Understanding MNPS School Options

MNPS includes over 150 unique schools and multiple school types from traditional zoned schools to magnets to charters. Read on to understand the many ways MNPS schools operate for Nashville's students.

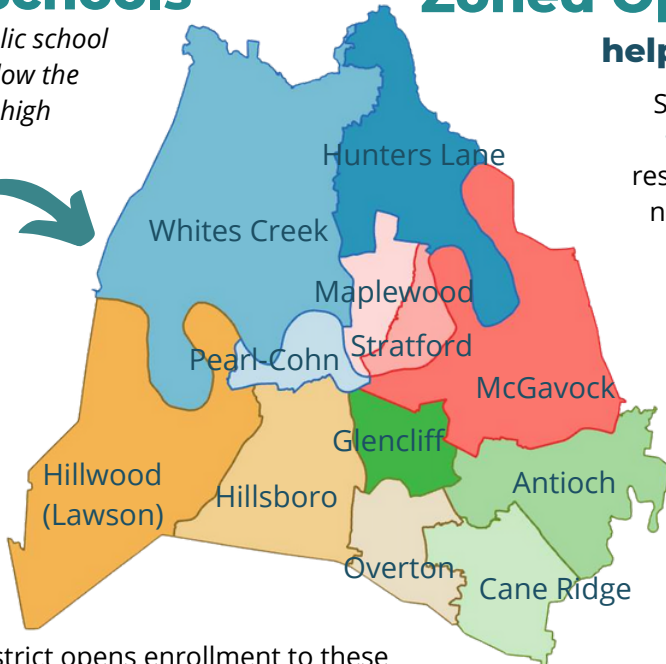
Traditional Schools

Traditional Zoned Schools

All students are assigned to a traditional public school according to their home address and can follow the feeder pattern from elementary to middle to high school in that cluster.

70 elementary schools
29 middle schools
12 high schools

12 zoned clusters



Zoned Option Schools

help to diversify schools

Some parts of the district offer **two zoned school choices** to residents - a school located in or near a student's neighborhood and another usually further away that is more diverse. School bus transportation is provided to Zoned Option Schools.



All students in the 12 zoned high schools can choose one of 35 different career and interest academies from entrepreneurship and innovation to global health and science.



Traditional Non-Zoned Options

have seats for students outside the zone

Some schools are not at capacity so the district opens enrollment to these schools for students across the district. These non-zoned options include a **Geographic Priority Zone (GPZ)** that gives first preference to students living in the GPZ before other students across the district.

Magnet Schools

Academic Magnets

offer rigorous academic pathways

- Academic Magnets provide rigorous coursework for students who have met **eligibility criteria**.
- Eligible students apply through the optional school process and seats are assigned via a lottery.



Thematic Magnets

offer pathways focused on specific topics

- Thematic Magnets **focus on specific subjects** such as STEAM, engineering, or the arts and are often intentionally focused on **strengthening school diversity**.



Charter Schools

operate independently from the district and vary in focus areas and approaches

- MNPS is home to **26 district-authorized charter schools**, which are independently operated public schools managed by a board of directors.



- Students apply to charters using the MNPS optional school process or the individual application created by the charter school.
- Nashville also includes other charter schools authorized by the state through the Achievement School District or the Tennessee Charter Commission, which are not part of MNPS.

Nontraditional Schools

offer alternative school approaches for different types of learners

SYF Academies at Old Cockrill, Opry Mills, & Hickory Hollow
Flexible scheduling and support for students ages 17-21 in small settings



Nashville Big Picture A high school that offers a flexible college prep curriculum paired with an internship in the workforce



MNPS Virtual School Opportunity for students in grades 4-12 to take some or all courses online



Early College High School Academically rigorous opportunity to earn a high school diploma and associate's degree in 4 years