

**ANTELOPE VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

District Office: 44811 SIERRA HIGHWAY, LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA 93534-3226  
Student Services Office: 548 W. LANCASTER BLVD., #102, LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA 93534-2571  
(661) 729-2321 Phone (661) 949-6292 Fax

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January 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student:

We are pleased to welcome you to the Antelope Valley Union High School District for the 2010-11 school year that begins on August 9, 2010. If you wish to be considered for attendance at a school other than your school of residence, please read the following information.

There are two options for a student to apply for a school of preference: **Open Enrollment** OR **School Choice**. The procedure for Open Enrollment will be described below, and the procedure for School Choice is described on the second page of this letter. Since you may choose only one of these options, please read both procedures to ensure that you are choosing the most appropriate option for your student.

We would also like you to consider the materials that have been provided to you from your school of residence. Additional information on all of our schools is available on the District's website at [www.avdistrict.org](http://www.avdistrict.org). All of our schools offer great opportunities for students to be successful.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT**

Open Enrollment is the process of applying for a high school other than your school of residence. Although the majority of AVUHSD schools are overcrowded, a limited number of 2010-11 Open Enrollment spaces will be available at **Antelope Valley High School, Highland High School, Littlerock High School, and Palmdale High School**. These would be general Open Enrollment spaces not specific to particular programs. Approvals would be on a lottery basis with the exception of students who have siblings currently attending the requested school and who will continue to attend for the 2010-11 school year. Open Enrollment for an incoming sibling will be considered approved if there is another sibling in the same family, residing in the same residence, *currently* enrolled. If the older sibling graduates prior to the incoming sibling's actual enrollment, the incoming sibling will not qualify for sibling approval. There are no 2010-11 Open Enrollment spaces available at Lancaster High School or Quartz Hill High School with the exception of Sibling Open Enrollment.

Since Administrative Regulation 5116—School Attendance Boundaries specifically states, "Students living in the designated school attendance area will have priority status over students requesting open enrollment transfers to that school," Open Enrollment also may be available to returning high school students who are currently attending a school on Open Enrollment or School Choice during the 2009-10 school year and are requesting to attend/return to their physical school of residence beginning with the 2010-11 school year.

**Transportation to a school of preference through the process of Open Enrollment will be the responsibility of the parent.** Transportation arrangements should be finalized prior to completing the Open Enrollment application. School bus service is not an option.

## SCHOOL CHOICE (“NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT”)

**Antelope Valley, Highland, Lancaster, Littlerock, and Palmdale High Schools** have been identified as Title I Program Improvement Schools by the California Department of Education according to the provisions of the federal law called the “No Child Left Behind Act.” Schools receiving federal Title I funds that did not make adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two consecutive years, based on the State’s school accountability system, are designated as Title I Program Improvement schools. Students who reside in the attendance area for **Antelope Valley, Highland, Lancaster, Littlerock, or Palmdale High Schools** may consider a transfer to a high-performance school within the District which has not been identified for Title I Program Improvement.

**Seats at our district’s schools are limited due to the population growth in the Antelope Valley.** It must be noted that priority will be given to students based on disadvantaged socio-economic status and lower academic standing in compliance with federal mandates. In addition, **siblings are not granted transfer under the School Choice option** as opposed to the Open Enrollment process where siblings **are** approved for transfer.

School Choice options are as follows:

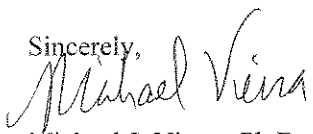
- Students entering grades nine, ten, or eleven who reside in the attendance area for Antelope Valley, Highland, Lancaster, Littlerock, or Palmdale High Schools may apply for School Choice to Eastside High School or Knight High School. (Eastside High School is located in east Lancaster, and Knight High School is located in east Palmdale.)
- Students entering grade twelve who reside in the attendance area for Antelope Valley, Highland, Lancaster, Littlerock, or Palmdale High Schools may apply for School Choice to Eastside High School, Knight High School, or Quartz Hill High School. (Eastside High School is located in east Lancaster, Knight High School is located in east Palmdale, and Quartz Hill is located in west Lancaster.)

Under the School Choice option for Program Improvement schools, the supplemental cost of transporting students to their school of choice is paid through District Title 1 funds. In order to be eligible for these transportation services, the student must live outside of the District’s three-mile walking rule. The District reserves the right to offer either school bus transportation or public transit services.

## GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING OPEN ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL CHOICE

- All students must submit their applications to the Student Services Office at 548 W. Lancaster Blvd., #102, Lancaster by mail or in person, no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 29, 2010. Applications may also be submitted by fax to (661) 949-6292. **LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**
- It is our intent to mail during March 2010 notification of selection or denial status to every family who applies.
- Once a student has confirmed acceptance of a school of preference, the student may only return to the prior school of residence through the Open Enrollment process during a subsequent year.
- Applications may be picked up at any school site within the District, or they may be printed from the District’s documents website at [www.avdocs.org](http://www.avdocs.org) (Click the link to “Student Services”.)
- Questions concerning Open Enrollment or School Choice should be referred to (661) 729-2321, Ext. 300.

Our goal is to provide a quality educational program at each school for all students. We look forward to working with you to make it happen.

Sincerely,  
  
Michael J. Vierra, Ph.D.  
Assistant Superintendent

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