

**Otter Valley Unified Union Elementary School Choice Application Form**  
**Policy JEF Elementary School Choice**

It is the policy of the Otter Valley Unified Union School District (OVUUSD) to offer parents and guardians elementary school choice within the district. The choice of the school venue will be guided by the needs of students, parents, and the district and will adhere to the OVUUSD process and guidelines which will be limited by transportation feasibility and classroom space availability.

**K-6 School Choice Timelines**

- Feb- Annual notification of school choice process
- Early March- Application opens. Forms to be received the Superintendent by March 30
- Mid-April First Decision Round- Parents notified of school choice decision by letter.
- Round 2 Decision- Parents who apply after the March closing date turns in the application up until August 1. 2nd Round decisions will be made by mid-August.
- Applications after August 1 and during the school year will be made on a case by case decision.

**To apply for school choice, please submit the following to:**  
**Superintendent, RNESU, 49 Court Drive, Brandon, VT 05733**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address (911 Address): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School? Y N      School/Town of Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Which school are you requesting for your student? Please rank your first choice #1 and your second choice #2)

- \_\_\_ Leicester Elementary K-6
- \_\_\_ Lothrop Elementary K-6
- \_\_\_ Neshobe Elementary K-6
- \_\_\_ Whiting K-2
- \_\_\_ Sudbury 3-6

Grade that student will be entering: K 1 2 3 4 5 6

Please note where siblings attend school, if any:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Frequently Asked Questions about Elementary School Choice in OVUUSD

1. ***What is school choice and who is allowed to exercise it?*** Children entering grades K-6 who live in the towns of Goshen, Brandon, Leicester, Whiting, Sudbury, Pittsford may exercise school choice. Our goal is to allow options for families while also ensuring balanced class sizes to provide a positive learning environment for all of our children. Parents may apply for choice in any of the elementary schools in these towns. Given space availability, we will work to meet as many families' needs as possible. By exercising school choice, we hope to achieve:
  - A. Balanced class sizes in all schools by eliminating, combining or dividing classes too small or too large
  - B. Optimal learning environments in all schools
  - C. Meeting the diverse needs of our student population
  - D. Options for all families
2. ***Does everyone who applies receive school choice?*** School choice will be limited to the amount of available space in each building. If you are interested in choosing a school other than the one located in your town, complete and submit the school choice form. Once we receive all applications by the end of March, we will assign students. If there is more interest in one particular school than space is available, we will hold a lottery.
3. ***Will my child be able to attend this school of choice for all elementary years?*** Your child will be able to attend the school of choice through the highest grade offered at that school.
4. ***If we exercise school choice and we have a younger child, will he or she also be able to attend the choice school?*** Younger children may apply to attend the school choice location with an older sibling when capacity is available. Capacity is determined by the RNEU Class Size Policy.
5. ***My child is currently attending one particular school and we feel a change of schools would be in his/her best interest. May we apply for school choice for next year?*** School choice will be extended to all K-6 students each year.
6. ***Will the district provide bussing?*** We have limited school bus routes available for inter town school choice. Each school will have a transportation area where some bussing to other towns will be available. We will post bus routes for your access.
7. ***Can we return to our original school after a year or more?*** You can reapply for your local school. Choice for return to the original school will be provided if space is available.
8. ***If more children want school choice than space is available, who gets priority?*** First priority goes to families living in that town. Next priority goes to siblings. If there are still more children applying than there is space, a lottery will be held.
9. ***What if I miss the deadline for school choice?*** We will honor requests for school choice after the deadline at the next decision point, which is in August. This allows new families to our area to choose their local school. After August 1 or the start of school, we will consider applications on a first come, first serve basis if the district agrees it is in the best interest of the child's education.