Welcome SFUSD Educational Placement Center

Lowell 9th grade Enrollment Workshop
November 2, 2013
Presentation Outline

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Key Dates For Lowell 9th Grade School Year 2014-2015
Lowell 9th Grade Applications must be submitted together with an SFUSD Enrollment Application by **Friday, December 13, 2013**.

Applicants will be notified by **March 14, 2014** of the student’s school assignment.

Parents/legal guardians must respond to the assignment offer by **April 11, 2014** by following specific Lowell acceptance instructions detailed in the approval letter.
Residency Requirement

Required proofs of address
Applicants and their parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must be legally and physically residing in San Francisco at the time of application. If parents live at different addresses, the primary custodial parent must live in San Francisco.

They must continue to reside in San Francisco from the time of application and while the student is attending Lowell. No Interdistrict Permit requests will be considered for Lowell admission.
Additional documents may be required if

- (a) the name of the parent/legal guardian who signs the application does not appear in the district’s records (current students) or on the student’s verification of birth date (new students);

- (b) the applicant attends school outside of San Francisco; or

- (c) parents/legal guardians are residing in different addresses.
Applications which are found to have fraudulent address information will be immediately cancelled and any resulting assignment retracted.

Keep in mind that if the District must hire an investigator or expend other resources in order to scrutinize your residency claim, the District will charge you for these expenses if it ultimately determines your claim is invalid. In prior instances, the District has charged parents/guardians upwards of $5,000.00 for investigating fraudulent claims.
NEW STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ALONG WITH THEIR APPLICATION FORM:

A. Parent/Guardian’s Picture ID
(Note: Application must be submitted in person by the Parent/Guardian)

B. Proof of birth. If the document does not contain the parent/guardian name, additional guardianship verification is required.
   - Birth certificate
   - Official hospital record
NEW STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ALONG WITH THEIR APPLICATION FORM:

C. Two (2) proofs of home address that include the name and address of the parent/guardian. Any two (2) of the following original documents dated within the last 45 days need to be provided:
NEW STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ALONG WITH THEIR APPLICATION FORM:

- One to two (1-2) utility bill(s) from different agencies such as PG&E, water, cable or garbage. No cell phone bills will be accepted.
- Both automobile registration and auto insurance (Count as [1] one Proof)
- Homeowner’s or renter’s insurance policy
- Property tax statement
- Pay stub
- Voter registration
- Official letter from a social service/government agency
- Grant deed, Title of property or rental/lease agreement with property owner’s documentation
- Section 8 agreement

All documents must be current and dated within 45 days.
Where do I get the application?

Where do I submit the application?
You may obtain the Lowell Application and the general SFUSD Enrollment Application at:

Lowell High School, all SFUSD middle and K-8 schools, most San Francisco non-public middle schools, and the Educational Placement Center (555 Franklin Street, Room 100).

The applications will also be posted on the District’s website, www.sfusd.edu/enroll.
Parents/legal guardians of current SFUSD 8th grade students must submit in person both completed applications to their current SFUSD middle school or to the Educational Placement Center. Applications sent through the mail will not be accepted.

Parents/legal guardians of all other 8th grade students must submit in person both completed applications to the Educational Placement Center. Applications sent through the mail will not be accepted.
Lowell High School 9th grade
Admissions Criteria
Final grades for the first semester of the 7th grade in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science

Final grades for the second semester of the 7th grade in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science

Final grades for the first semester of the 8th grade in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science
CST (STAR) test scores from Spring 7th grade or Lowell Admission test in January 2014

Information submitted on the Lowell Application (extracurricular activities demonstrating leadership skills, extenuating circumstances, demonstrated ability to overcome hardship, and family information)

An essay to be written at the applicant’s current school (All schools with Lowell applicants will be given instructions for administering the essay requirement.)
Testing Requirement
Lowell Admissions Test
All students who did not take the CST (STAR) test in the spring of the seventh grade MUST take the Lowell Admission test on one of the two scheduled dates:

Wednesday, January 8, 2014, 6:00 p.m. Lowell High School, 1101 Eucalyptus Ave, SF, 94132

Saturday, January 11, 2014, 8:00 a.m. Lowell High School, 1101 Eucalyptus Ave, SF, 94132
To sign up for the test, the applicant must indicate on the Lowell Application the date that they will take the test.

The Saturday test will be over by approximately 11:00 a.m. The Wednesday test will be over by approximately 9:00 p.m.

There is a 15 minute break in which refreshments are allowed but not provided. Dictionaries and calculators will not be allowed. Pencils and paper will be provided.
There will be no letter sent to confirm your selected test date. Applicants are expected to show up on the selected test date.

To be admitted to the test setting, all students must bring some form of picture identification, and a copy of both applications.
Students who have taken the CST (STAR) test in the spring of the seventh grade will not be permitted to take the test at Lowell. If a student takes the test at Lowell and the Educational Placement Center receives CST scores, the CST scores will be used and the new scores will be discarded.

Parents/legal guardians who wish to receive their children’s composite scores in March 2014, must indicate so on the Lowell application. The composite score is the point value derived from the applicants’ grades and test score. Individual test scores will not be provided.
Band Admissions
There are three different Bands (qualification methods) for admission into Lowell High School. There is also a separate evaluation of Special Education – RSP applicants for admission to Lowell High.
Band 1 – approximately 70% of seats (approximately 595 seats)

Band 2 – approximately 15% of seats (approximately 127 seats)

Band 3 – approximately 15% of seats (approximately 127 seats)

Special Education – RSP – to be determined – based on space availability
Band 1 admission is based on:

The applicant’s grades in English, Math, Social Studies, and Science from the entire 7th grade and the 1st semester of 8th grade.

The applicant’s scores from the English Language Arts and Math portions of the CST (STAR) test in the spring of 7th grade or the Reading and Math portions of the Lowell Admission test in January 2014.

The total possible score for Band 1 is 89 points. The 2013-14 cut-off score for Band 1 was 85.5 points.
1st Semester 7th Grade

16 Maximum of 4 points for each of the following four subjects: English, Math, Soc. Studies, Science
A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0
2nd Semester 7th Grade

16 Maximum of 4 points for each of the following four subjects: English, Math, Soc. Studies, Science
A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0
1st Semester 8th Grade

32 Maximum of 8 points for each of the following four subjects: English, Math, Soc. Studies, Science
A = 8, B = 6, C = 4, D = 2, F = 0
The CST/STAR or Lowell Admission test

25 Maximum points. Each half (Reading/ELA and Math) of the CST or Lowell Admission test is worth 12.5 points

Please refer to the Lowell Admission Worksheet if you want to calculate your child’s Composite Score.

See Band Summary document for Band 1 Point Breakdown
Band 2

To be considered for Band 2, students must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 (derived from English, Math, Social Studies, and Science from the entire 7th grade and the 1st semester of 8th grade) and a minimum 60% average in the CST (STAR) or the Lowell Admission test.
Band 2 admission is based on:

The applicant’s grades in English, Math, Social Studies, and Science from the entire 7th grade and the 1st semester of 8th grade. (max 64 points)

The applicant’s score from the Band 2 evaluation done by school-based committees. (max 45 points)

The total possible score for Band 2 is 109 points. The 2013-14 cut-off score for Band 2 was 82 points.
See Band Summary document for Band 2 Point Breakdown
To be considered for Band 3, students must have a minimum of 64 points derived from:

The applicant’s grades in English, Math, Social Studies, and Science from the entire 7th grade and the 1st semester of 8th grade, the applicant’s scores from the English Language Arts and Math portions of the CST or the Reading and Math portions of the Lowell Admission test in January 2014. (Band 1)

and be attending a Band 3 identified school. Band 3 schools will be identified as under-represented using data from the last several years of student population, number of applicants and number of admissions.

Assignments to Band 3 seats are made based on Principal nomination.
Applications for Lowell admissions for Grades 10-12 will be available in May 2014.

Admissions are based on report card grades in the academic subjects since the beginning of the 9th grade and space availability at the requested grade level.
Applicants must have grades for at least 4 of these content areas in all grades:

- English/Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- Science
- Foreign Language
Transcripts and Notification

- Sealed transcripts must be provided by non-SFUSD student applicants at the end of the 2013-14 school year.

- Notification for acceptance to Lowell in grades 10-12 will be in July 2014.
Top 5 Frequently asked Questions
Do I need to provide the report cards and or grades?

No, the SFUSD will obtain the school records from your child’s current school. (If SFUSD is unable to obtain records, or if records are incomplete, the applicant’s family will be contacted)
Is there an appeal process for students who are not accepted?

Lowell High school has an established admissions criteria for all, and therefore to preserve equity no appeals are accepted.
Is there a Waitpool for Lowell? What happens when an accepted student declines the assignment?

No, there is no Waitpool. Approximately 850 students will be admitted for 650 seats. The over-enrollment is purposely included with attrition trends in mind. Typically, 150-200 students decline their Lowell assignment bringing the class down to the target size.
#4
Is there a sibling priority to attend Lowell?

No, all students are required to meet the admissions criteria.
I wish my child to attend Lowell, however, their sibling attends school (B). How can I assure if my child does not qualify for Lowell, that both children attend school together?

Lowell applicants with siblings at other high schools may list the sibling’s school in the order of preference. They need to indicate on the application that there is a sibling at one of the choices. A sibling tiebreaker will apply for the sibling’s school where ever it is listed.
#6
What happens if my child does not qualify for Lowell? Will this hurt their chances of getting another choice school?

If the student does not qualify for Lowell, the school will be removed from the list of choices and all other requests will be moved up in ranking on the preference list.
Questions and Answers
Thank You For Coming!