



## Ernest Hemingway STEAM School 6th Grade Lottery Process

The good news is that Ernest Hemingway STEAM School stabilized its enrollment and gave Blaine County parents an option for middle school in the North Valley.

### **Why a lottery?**

There is an increasing demand for enrollment to Ernest Hemingway STEAM School (EHSS) since its inception in 2017. Space is limited. Because demand is greater than capacity, a lottery process will be followed to determine 6th grade enrollments. Once students are enrolled at EHSS Middle School they are eligible to remain through 8th grade.

### **How many 6th grade students will be enrolled at EHSS?**

EHSS will lottery 55 students for 6th grade.

### **What factors informed the process for the lottery?**

The following factors are considered in this lottery process:

- Creating the STEAM School in response to the public request for a middle school in the North Valley
- Responding to the public demand for a smaller middle school setting as an option in Blaine County School District (BCSD)
- Following the precedent set by the Dual Immersion lottery for students of staff members to attend because of their contribution to the schools' education and culture
- Recognizing students who have been at Hemingway since Kindergarten.
- Keeping families together.
- Attendance boundaries for Wood River Middle School and EHSS Middle School are the same.

### **How will the lottery be conducted?**

The following process will be used to lottery 6th grade students to Ernest Hemingway STEAM School:

#### *Round 1 - First Priority:*

- Automatic placement of students who are children of current EHSS staff.

#### *Round 2 - Second Priority:*

- Students who have been continuously enrolled at EHSS since Kindergarten and have a current sibling enrolled at EHSS.

#### *Round 3 - Third Priority:*

- Students who have been continuously enrolled at EHSS since Kindergarten who do not have a sibling in the school currently at EHSS.

*Round 4 - Fourth Priority:*

- Current EHSS 5th grade students who enrolled after Kindergarten and have a sibling(s) currently enrolled at EHSS.

*Round 5 - Fifth Priority:*

- Current EHSS 5th grade students who enrolled after Kindergarten without siblings currently enrolled at EHSS.

*Round 6 - Sixth Priority*

- Any current 5th grade students attending a school in Blaine County School District who resides in Blaine County.

*Round 7 - Seventh Priority*

- Any 5th grade student who resides in Blaine County who is currently not attending a BCSD school.

**What happens with students who are not selected during the lottery process?**

Once the total enrollment counts reach 55 students, students selected thereafter are placed on a waitlist beginning with the 56th name selected until all names are drawn. The last name selected will be the last name on the waitlist. The school's lottery waitlist will be honored until the last day of the school year in 6th grade.

**Can students be added to the waitlist after the lottery?**

Yes, students can be added to the waitlist at any time during the 6th grade year.

**What if I want to transfer into EHSS after sixth grade?**

Students interested in enrolling at EHSS after sixth grade would express their interest at the school. The ability to transfer will depend on space available.