

Shannon Hillman:

Here we go. Okay. So I'm going to talk a little bit about the lottery. For expected student openings, we have 30 openings for Kindergarten, and then we have 5 other openings in grades one through five. And I'll go through that as we go through the lottery today, so that you know where those openings are. That doesn't mean that we won't have more openings down the line here in the next few months. Right now we are finding out from our families if they're returning, or if they are planning to head to another school, or if they're moving, and that happens all the way throughout the summer. So, what will happen is we will do the lottery for everyone, and then we will be creating a wait list. And so, as things open up, we will be making offers all the way throughout the summer and actually throughout the school year up until this time next year when we run a new lottery.

Shannon Hillman:

We don't accept sixth graders even though we do have sixth graders here. Sixth grade is a really unique and special kind of year, and it's a culmination of everything they've learned. So, it's very hard for sixth graders to catch up and have enough to go on to be able to be really successful here.

Shannon Hillman:

So, lottery preferences. Based on our charter and on the law, siblings of current GCCS students get preference first. So, if there is a child who's at GCCS currently and their sibling is ready for kindergarten, let's say, that sibling is going to get preference first in the lottery. So we're going to see siblings at the top of the lottery list. There are not very many siblings this year in kindergarten, so it's a good year for new families to get in.

Shannon Hillman:

We also allow staff children. It's only 15% of staff children that are allowed. We actually only have two that are entering our lottery this year, so those staff children will be part of the lottery as well.

Shannon Hillman:

Then, the next preference is Rochester City School District residents. So, if you are a resident of Rochester City School District, your name will be moved to the top of our lottery makeup here. And then suburban residents are at the end of that makeup. So, we accept RCSD first over suburban.

Shannon Hillman:

And then the other thing you should know is that if you have a set of twins, congratulations. I am a mom of twins too. I know all about that. But you should also know that twins are only entered in once. So both names are in there, but it's one time in the lottery just to create fairness for the chances.

Shannon Hillman:

So for running the lottery, the lottery is open to the public, which is why I needed to make sure to press record. We will post this on the website. The person who's running the lottery can't be... I have to move my little windows so I can read my own slide here... Can't be a GCCS staff member or board member. They can't be blood-related to a member of the GCCS community or related to anyone who's applying to the school because that would be a conflict of interest. So, we've invited Alex to join us and he is going to be pressing the button and running the lottery in a minute, and I'm going to introduce him to you in

just a second. We do have to record and we will be transcribing this lottery and then posting it on our website so you can go back and watch it again.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. So Alex, come on over. So, this is Alex.

Alexander Conyer:

Good morning. Good morning, families.

Shannon Hillman:

So, Alex is a member of the Rochester Museum and Science Center as the security on campus. So Alex, are you a staff member of GCCS?

Alexander Conyer:

I'm not a staff member.

Shannon Hillman:

No. So you are employed through Rochester Museum and Science Center.

Alexander Conyer:

I am employed through them, yes.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. And are you related to anyone who goes to this school or a staff member at this school?

Alexander Conyer:

I am not.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. And are you related to anyone who's applying to GCCS for this year?

Alexander Conyer:

No, I'm not related to anyone here.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay, great. So, Alex is going to run the lottery in just a second and then, the big question is, well, how do you know if you get in? So, the way that you're going to know is you're going to see Alex press the button on GoodSchoolsROC for each list. That'll pop up, but you're not going to see the names because names are confidential. So the way that you're going to find out is you'll go back onto GoodSchoolsROC to find out your status. And, the good news is, is that all charters are doing this at the same time. So, probably by, I would say around 10 o'clock, everything will be up, and running, and publicized, so you'll be able to see where your child is on each of our wait lists or, if it says pre-offer, it means that there's going to be an automatic communication to you from GoodSchoolsROC that'll say that you have a seat. So that's really exciting.

Shannon Hillman:

For us, we then will, once you accept that offer, we're going to send you an enrollment packet and we'll need you to get that back to us as soon as possible. That way we know for sure that they are going to be enrolled at our school.

Shannon Hillman:

All right. More people coming in. Okay. So, I'm going to say good luck, and I'm going to just get out of this here so that we can move to the lottery part. Alex, is that enough for you to see?

Alexander Conyer:

Yes.

Shannon Hillman:

Let me just see if I can minimize this.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. So I'm going to have Alex sit in my seat, and what he's going to do is he's going to press this button over here. So for kindergarten, we're going to start there. Kindergarten, there are 30 open seats. So, this is where you can see this too.

Alexander Conyer:

Okay.

Shannon Hillman:

You can see that the lottery is not yet run. So he's going to press that button. It's going to be a spinning wheel for a bit, as the algorithm is spinning all the names and getting everything set up in preferences, and then it will show the list. So he'll be able to open up the list, and we can see how it's all shaken out.

Shannon Hillman:

Well, now I'm getting an unstable message. Hopefully I'm good. And then, as we're doing that, I'm going to tell you how many applicants there were for each of the grade levels. Okay. So let me get rid of that just for a little more space, and Alex is going to take a seat.

Alexander Conyer:

Awesome. Very good.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. So, for kindergarten, there were 171 applicants for 30 open seats. So Alex is going to press the run lottery button.

Alexander Conyer:

Alright. I'm excited to be a part of it. Confirm. Good luck, everyone.

Shannon Hillman:

That's a lot of applicants so it just takes a few minutes. This won't take as long for some of the other grades.

Shannon Hillman:

There's the waiting room person.

Shannon Hillman:

All right. So now it says the lottery was done. So we're just going to click on that saying "Current". So, again, you're not going to see names, but what you're seeing is where the pre-offers are in the wait list. So, on the left-hand side, that's the student ID. Then there's a lottery order, then there's the status. So, all those pre-offers are those 30 spots that were available. And you'll notice that, on the side, it says "Priorities". Those priorities that mattered where if they were in-district, a sibling of a GCCS student that currently goes here, or a staff member child but, remember, there were only two of those. So we might see some of those, see sibling attending, in-district sibling attending. But, if we head down here, we're going to see just in-district, and those were the priorities for that one.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. That should get us all the way down to our 30 spots. And then we're going to get into district. And here's one, that's a multiple. That's exciting. And this is where our wait list begins. Okay. It heads right down, all the way to the end of our list of 177. So, again, you'll be able to find out once we finish up with the lottery and make this public, then you'll be able to go onto your account and find out where you stand.

Shannon Hillman:

So, now we're going to go back to the lottery dashboard. Yeah. And we're going to run it for first grade. So, for first grade we have two open spots and there were 52 applicants for first grade. And, remember, as I said before, even though there's only two open spots currently, there could be open spots as we move on in the next few months.

Shannon Hillman:

And there we go. So, we'll hit current real quick and take a quick look. That's where we are. We have the two for the pre-offer, and then we move right on into our wait list. Okay.

Alexander Conyer:

Awesome.

Shannon Hillman:

Here we go.

Alexander Conyer:

And-

Shannon Hillman:

We'll go back.

Alexander Conyer:

[crosstalk 00:10:31] go back.

Shannon Hillman:

We'll run the lottery for second grade. Currently, for second grade, we don't have any openings. We have 57 applicants. We'll see where everyone fits on the wait list and definitely let you know if anything pops up.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. So there they are. And we've got wait-listed happening, and they go all the way through up to 57.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. Thanks, Alex.

Alexander Conyer:

You're very welcome.

Shannon Hillman:

So now we're going on to third grade. Third grade, you have a little bit better number here. We have 35 applicants for third grade and we have two open spots.

Alexander Conyer:

Alright.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay.

Alexander Conyer:

Good luck.

Shannon Hillman:

Here we go. We have those two getting a pre-offer and then we have our wait list generated for all 35.

Shannon Hillman:

Moving on to fourth grade. Fourth grade has one open spot and 40 applicants.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. Alright. So there's one pre-offer and then the rest are wait-listed.

Alexander Conyer:

All wait-listed.

Shannon Hillman:

And then we'll do the last one, which is fifth grade. Fifth grade, at this time, we don't have any open spots. We have 33 applicants. Sometimes in this past year we had, I think, three different fifth grade openings throughout the year. So we have new fifth graders this year, a few of them. So don't get discouraged. There's still a chance to get in fifth grade.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. Make sure we're set.

Alexander Conyer:

[crosstalk 00:13:50] I think it will all be wait-listed.

Shannon Hillman:

We got our wait list set. Awesome.

Alexander Conyer:

Very good.

Shannon Hillman:

And then that's for the 33. And can you go back one more time to the lottery dashboard?

Alexander Conyer:

Yes ma'am.

Shannon Hillman:

Thank you, sir. So, you'll see that it says "results public". It says "no". As soon as we get off this zoom call, we will make that public so that it shows up in your GoodSchoolsROC account. You are welcome to call us if you have any questions, more about the program, or just would like to know anything more. We'd be happy to answer your questions, but I do believe going on to GoodSchoolsROC will help you as well. And Alex, I'm going to thank you for running this lottery for us.

Alexander Conyer:

It was no problem. It was a pleasure. And good luck to everyone and everyone's children, and I hope everything works out and we'll make this year a great year for sure.

Shannon Hillman:

Okay. Alright, thank you so much.

Alexander Conyer:

Awesome. You're welcome. Bye everyone.