

Delta Middle Level Matching Process

Delta Middle works on a “flat” organizational model for school. This means that teachers are very involved in day-to-day decision-making and school governance--just as students and parents are, as well. The intent of this process is to make sure we are setting students up for success. Successful students contribute to our community and classrooms through their voice, actions, effort, and citizenship towards other members of the community.

Here is our process:

- **Group Decision-Making.** A committee of at least three teachers (along with the Director of Educational Alternatives) collaboratively makes decisions based on the criteria below.
- **Shadowing.** We require the student to spend a school day with one of our current students. This allows prospective students to get a feel for the program while offering Delta teachers the chance to observe them directly.
- **Observation Form.** We require that at least two school staff (from the sending school) complete an observation form about the student. This form asks: Is the student an independent learner? Is the student an engaged learner? And, does the student value the school community in their behaviors and actions? How the recommending staff answer these questions, and what we observe during a student’s visit, factor into our decision.
- **Student Voice.** We read the application materials. The application questions pose similar questions as the observation form, but require the student to respond in their own words. We want to hear directly from students about *why they want to join our community*, and *what they feel they can contribute*. We greatly value what students have to say from their own perspective--regardless of how it is written. We encourage parents to resist the temptation to help their child complete this part of the application.
- **Parent Voice.** We want to hear directly from parents about why Delta Middle would be a good fit for their child. We also want to hear how the parent feels they can contribute to the Delta Community as an adult. Our preference is to meet with all prospective families as part of this process.
- **Waiting List.** Finally, and perhaps most unfortunately, there are a limited number of spots at Delta in any given year. This means that any student for whom this program would be a good match may be placed on a waiting list, pending an opening in the program.

We appreciate your family’s interest in Delta Middle and look forward to learning more about you.

ENROLLMENT FORM
The State College Area School District
DELTA Middle Level PROGRAM

PHONE (814) 231-1000

Fairmount Avenue School
154 W. Nittany Avenue
State College, PA 16801

FAX (814) 235-4544

** Please print the information on this page. **

Name: _____

Today's Date: _____

SCASD Student Number: _____

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Address: _____

_____ (Zip code)

Parent/guardian email: _____

Parent/guardian cell phone: _____

Home phone: _____

Parent/guardian work phone: _____

Student cell phone: _____

Student **SCASD** email: _____

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Present grade: 4 5 6 7 8

Parent/guardian email: _____

Grade entering Delta Middle Level: 5 6 7 8

Parent/guardian cell phone: _____

Present School: _____

Parent/guardian work phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Current school counselor: _____

When do you want to start at The Delta Middle Level Program? _____

Are you currently registered as a student in the SCASD? _____

Do you have an IEP? YES NO

OFFICE USE ONLY

APPLICATION:

ASSIGNMENT

_____ *Received*

Advisor: _____

_____ *Shadow*

Comments: _____

_____ *Parent Meeting*

_____ *Observation*

_____ *Enrolled*

_____ *Withdrawn*

DELTA EXPECTATIONS

Every member of Delta has:

- **the right to** free expression within the bounds of other Delta guidelines, and with the understanding that each person will take into account the sensibilities and personal dignity of others.
- **the right to** expect that she/he will be treated with courtesy, respect, and kindness. Feelings, thoughts and opinions will be communicated directly to each other. When conflicts arise, they will be resolved peacefully, privately, and with consideration for others in the school community. **Violence is never acceptable in the Delta community.**
- **the responsibility to** act in ways, which support the learning and growth of others. Staff members have a special responsibility to be nurturing to students.
- **the right to** expect that everyone will attend class, everyone will be on time, everyone will be prepared, and everyone will be attentive.
- **the responsibility to** act in an appropriate manner in the community at large, remembering that individual actions reflect on Delta.
- **the right to** expect that individual and community property will not be altered, damaged, or stolen by people in the program.
- **the right to** expect that each person will be aware of and responsible for his/her own property and the property of others.
- **the right to** expect that consequences will be applied to those who violate these expectations.

1. Why do you want to enroll in the Delta Middle Level Program?

2. Describe some of your interests.

3. What skills, talents, or qualities do you possess that would make a positive contribution to The Delta Program?

4. If you are enjoying your current school environment, how do you think a transition to Delta Middle will help you maintain your positive school experience? If you are frustrated with your current school experience, why do you think a transition to Delta Middle will change your feeling about school?

5. As a student, how would you like to be involved in the Delta community?

6. It's important to be able to work independently Delta. Share an example of a time when you worked independently on a project or an assignment.

****FOR PARENTS**

1. If your child is thriving in their current school environment, how do you think a transition to Delta Middle will help them maintain their positive school experience? Conversely, if your child is frustrated with their current school environment, why do you think a transition to Delta Middle will transform their school experience?

2. As a parent, how would you like to be involved in the Delta community?

3. The structure of Delta Middle requires students to work independently, manage many transitions throughout the day, and develop relationships with a variety of teachers. How do you see your child working within this independent learning environment?

The applicant and parent(s)/guardian must read the following and sign below to indicate that they understand and agree to these terms:

We, the undersigned, are aware and concur that the counselor or director of The Delta Program will contact the counselor or administrator of the school that the applicant last attended to get information concerning the academic, attendance, and discipline record of the applicant, to help determine the status under which the applicant may enroll in The Delta Program.

We, the undersigned, have explored the philosophy and structure of The Delta Program and wish to apply to enroll. We understand that having made the choice to apply to The Delta Program we are committing ourselves to work with the Delta community (staff, parents, and students) to help the applicant have a successful learning experience in the program. We also understand that if the program does not prove to be the appropriate educational structure, or if the applicant does not assume responsibility to meet the expectations of the program (see attached), the staff or Advising Team may decide that the student must transfer from the program to pursue her/his secondary education elsewhere.

We, as parents, understand that once our child is enrolled, we must commit time to help with her/his education. The minimum expectation is involvement in Advising Team Meetings (ATMs) as needed. Our signatures indicate permission for our child to enroll in The Delta Program and our commitment to attend Advising Team Meetings to help our child attain her/his educational goals.

List the names (at least two, including student) of those who will be on the Advising Team:

Student (Print)

Parent/Guardian (Print)

Parent/Guardian (Print)

Other (Print)

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date