



Colorado Springs School District 11
Instruction, Curriculum and Student Services
Title I Office

2009-2010
Title I School “Choice”
And
Supplemental Educational Services
Procedures and Implementation



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School District 11
Title I Choice
and
Supplemental Educational Services
Procedures and Implementation
School Year 2009-2010

Contents

SUMMARY OF 2009-2010 “CHOICE” TRANSPORTATION COSTS	3
TITLE I “CHOICE” TIMELINES FOR DECISION MAKING	4
SUMMARY OF TITLE I “CHOICE” GUIDELINES	5
Holly Brilliant, Title I Director	8
SCHOOL “CHOICE” DATA	9
SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY 2009-2010 “CHOICE” STUDENTS.....	12
CONCLUSIONS FOR TITLE I “CHOICE”	13
SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.....	14

Summary of 2009-2010 “Choice” Transportation Costs

During the 2009-2010 school year, 9 students were transported at District expense from one sending school to two receiving schools. District 11 busses provided all of the transportation. The cost for District 11 busing was \$5712.00 for the entire year.

Only one District 11 Title I school offered “choice” in the 2009-2010 school year: Monroe Elementary School. Nine total students were transported to two receiving schools.

Title I “Choice” Timelines for Decision Making

The US Department of Education Non-Regulatory Draft Guidance (February 6, 2004) states, “An LEA must make “choice” available for students no later than the first day of the school year following the school year in which the LEA administered the assessments that resulted in the school being identified as in need of school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring [Section 1116(b)(1)(E)].” District 11 received preliminary AYP data from the Colorado Department of Education in July 2009. Doing what was best for the students in question, the Title I office based its decision to offer Title I “Choice” Emerson-Edison Charter Academy on the following factors:

- The federally mandated timelines for offering “Choice”;
- The best interest of potential “Choice” students as far as:
 - Disruptions to the academic progress by switching schools; and
 - Beginning the school year in a school and remaining there versus beginning in the home school and being offered “Choice” after attending the home school and establishing relationships there.
- The preliminary AYP data received from CDE in August 2009;
- The first scheduled day of school;
- The convenience of parents of potential “Choice” students in scheduling transportation; and
- Staffing needs of receiving schools.

Title I “Choice” was offered to students currently enrolled at Monroe beginning on August 3, 2009. Applications were due in the Title I office by August 15, 2009. An additional enrollment window from August 15, 2009 to September 15, 2009 was created for students new to District 11 **only**.

Summary of Title I “Choice” Guidelines

- The “Title I Choice” process for the 2009-2010 school year was reviewed in the spring of 2009.
- “Title I Choice” criteria and guidelines were updated consistent with the guidance available in the winter and spring of 2009.
- One school was identified as eligible for “Choice” for the 2009-2010 school year after preliminary AYP data became available in August 2009.
- A notification letter was prepared for the Title I school eligible for “Title I Choice”.
- The principal of the school eligible for Title I choice participated in the preparation of a letter to his/her community indicating the reform efforts underway within the school to increase student achievement.
- The letter from the district, the one page application and the Choice Frequently Asked questions were mailed to parents of each student enrolled in the school.
- This information packet was translated into Spanish. A total of 409 letters were mailed.
- Each parent of a student attending Monroe Elementary School was given the choice of two schools, each of which had a Governor’s report card rating of average and/or above for Overall Academic Performance, and a rating of stable and/or above for Overall Academic Improvement. These schools also had higher achievement rates than Monroe.
- Parents only had to complete a one page application to initiate the “Title I Choice” Process. Parents sent their “Title I Choice” application directly to the Title I Director for processing and approval.
- The “Title I Choice” process offered two application windows in August and September 2009 to accommodate parents who were new to the District and/or school during the summer and the fall of 2009.
- Transportation from sending school to receiving school was offered to all students who were approved for “Title I Choice.”
- No applications for “Title I Choice” were denied for the 2009-2010 school year.
- A total of 10 students were enrolled in two receiving schools under the Title I “Choice” provision of No Child Left Behind.

TITLE I CHOICE GUIDELINES

Title I Choice Guidelines for the 2009-2010 School Year*
April 2009

- I. Parents/Guardians of students in Title I Schools on School Improvement or Corrective Action may apply for "Title I Choice" from August 1 through August 30, 2009. "Title I Choice" means the opportunity for students who currently attend a Title I School that was on Improvement and/or Corrective Action Status during the 2009-2010 school year to apply to attend a designated alternate District school for the 2009-2010 school year that is not on School Improvement or Corrective Action Status, with transportation provided by the District.
 - A. The time frame to apply for the 2009-2010 school year is from August 1, 2009 through August 30, 2009.
 - B. Parents of students who move into the attendance area of a District Title I School on Improvement and/or Corrective Action Status after the application time frame closes, will be given a 30-calendar day window to apply for "Title I Choice" at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. The designated window will be from August 15, 2009 to September 15, 2009.
 - C. Each parent/guardian of a student currently attending a Title I school on Improvement or Corrective Action Status will be notified by mail or phone call of the designated alternate schools available to them in the District's "Title I Choice" program.
 - D. "Title I Choice" will allow students to attend a designated alternate school not on Improvement and/or Corrective Action Status. For the 2009-2010 school year, each designated alternate school will be rated Average or above.
 - E. All students who attend the school on improvement, regardless of whether they live within the attendance area of the school on improvement, are eligible for "Title I Choice".
 - F. An approved "Title I Choice" application is not considered to be a permit under BOE Policy JFBA/JFBB and as such is not subject to the ordinary permit revocation process as outlined in that Policy.
 1. Approval of a "Title I Choice" application does not exempt the student from other policies, procedures, regulations and/or administrative guidelines including, but not limited to, those relating to student discipline and safe schools.
- II. Except as otherwise permitted by law, transportation will be provided to designated alternate schools provided that the student's home school remains on Title I Improvement and/or Corrective Action Status, the student retains his or her eligibility under the program, the chosen school remains a designated alternate school under "Title I Choice," and the chosen school is not itself on Improvement and/or Corrective Action status.
 - A. Transportation of students approved for "Title I Choice" shall be from the grounds of the sending school to the grounds of the receiving school, except as otherwise required by law.
 - B. Transportation of special education students who's IEP includes transportation as a related service, will be provided transportation from their home or nearest pick-up point to the designated alternate school.
- III. Except as otherwise permitted by law, students who are approved for Title I Choice may remain at the chosen designated alternate school – subject to applicable policies, procedures, regulations and/or administrative guidelines – until they age out of the school provided that, the student retains his or her eligibility under the program, the chosen school remains a designated alternate school under "Title I Choice," and the chosen school is not itself on Improvement and/or Corrective Action status. Whether or not transportation is provided by the District for all or a part of the time the student remains at the chosen school is a separate determination that will depend on a number of factors (see Section II above).

IV. Title I Choice Application Procedures

- A. A parent may apply for their child to attend designated alternate schools that are not on Improvement and/or Corrective Action Status by completing the Title I Choice application and returning it to the Title I Office on or before August 30, 2009.
- B. The Title I Office will rank received applications per school on Improvement or Corrective Action Status based upon the highest academic need as determined by CSAP scores and Free and/or Reduced Lunch Status.
 1. Students who have scored the lowest on CSAP and who are Free and/or Reduced Lunch status will be given priority in rank order.
 - a. Students with Disabilities: requests from the parents of students with disabilities for "Title I Choice" to attend another school or program shall be considered in accordance with these guidelines and applicable state and federal laws. The student's current Individual Education Plan (IEP) shall be used to determine if the requested school or program can meet the student's needs as the school or program currently exists and is staffed.
 2. Applications for "Title I Choice" will be considered consistent with requirements in Section IV, A, B and E herein.
 3. The receiving school and the sending school, as well as the parent/guardian who requested choice, will be notified of the status of the application by mail not later than August 18, 2009.

V. General "Title I Choice" Guidelines

- A. By granting "Title I Choice" the District is **not** required to:
 1. Make alterations in the structure of a requested school or make alterations to the arrangement or function of rooms or otherwise modify facilities within a requested school;
 2. Establish and offer any particular program in a school if such program is not offered currently in that school;
 3. Alter or waive any established eligibility criteria for participation in a particular program including age requirements, course prerequisites, and required levels of performance.
 4. Provide Title I services at any designated alternate school unless the school has otherwise been identified by the District as a Title I School.
- B. "Title I Choice" may be denied for the following reasons:
 1. The student does not meet the established eligibility criteria for participation in a particular program (including age requirements, course prerequisites, and required levels of performance);
 2. The student has been expelled or is in the process of being expelled for any reason;
 3. The student has been expelled from any school district during the preceding twelve months;
 4. The student's immunization records are incomplete;
 5. The student has exhibited behavior in another school district during the preceding twelve months that is detrimental to the welfare or safety of other pupils or of school personnel.

COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT # 11
MONROE TITLE I CHOICE APPLICATION
2009-2010

To be filled out by parent/guardian (please print clearly)

Student's Legal Name: First _____ Middle _____ Last _____
Date of Birth ____/____/____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Home Phone Number _____ - _____ additional contact number _____ - _____
2009-2010 Grade Level _____ M/F _____

Is student receiving special services?
(SPED, ESL, Free/Reduced Lunch, etc.) YES _____ NO _____
If yes, what services:

I request Title I Choice from Monroe Elementary School to: (Check only one of the schools listed below).

Choices for students in 2009-2010	
_____ Henry Elementary School 1310 Lehmborg Blvd. 328-7200	_____ Madison Elementary School 4120 Constitution Ave. 328-7300
_____ I choose to leave my child at Monroe Elementary School	

PARENT:
I understand that if Monroe is removed from Title I School Improvement Status that District 11 will no longer be responsible for the transportation of my child to the Choice school.

"I HAVE READ THE INFORMATION AND AGREE TO THE TERMS FOR PROCESSING 2009-10 TITLE I CHOICE APPLICATION. "

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____
Parent Name (please print) _____
DATE _____

This application must be completed as soon as possible and returned on or before August 13, 2009 to the District 11 Title I Office. Please use the provided self-addressed stamped envelope or mail the completed application to:

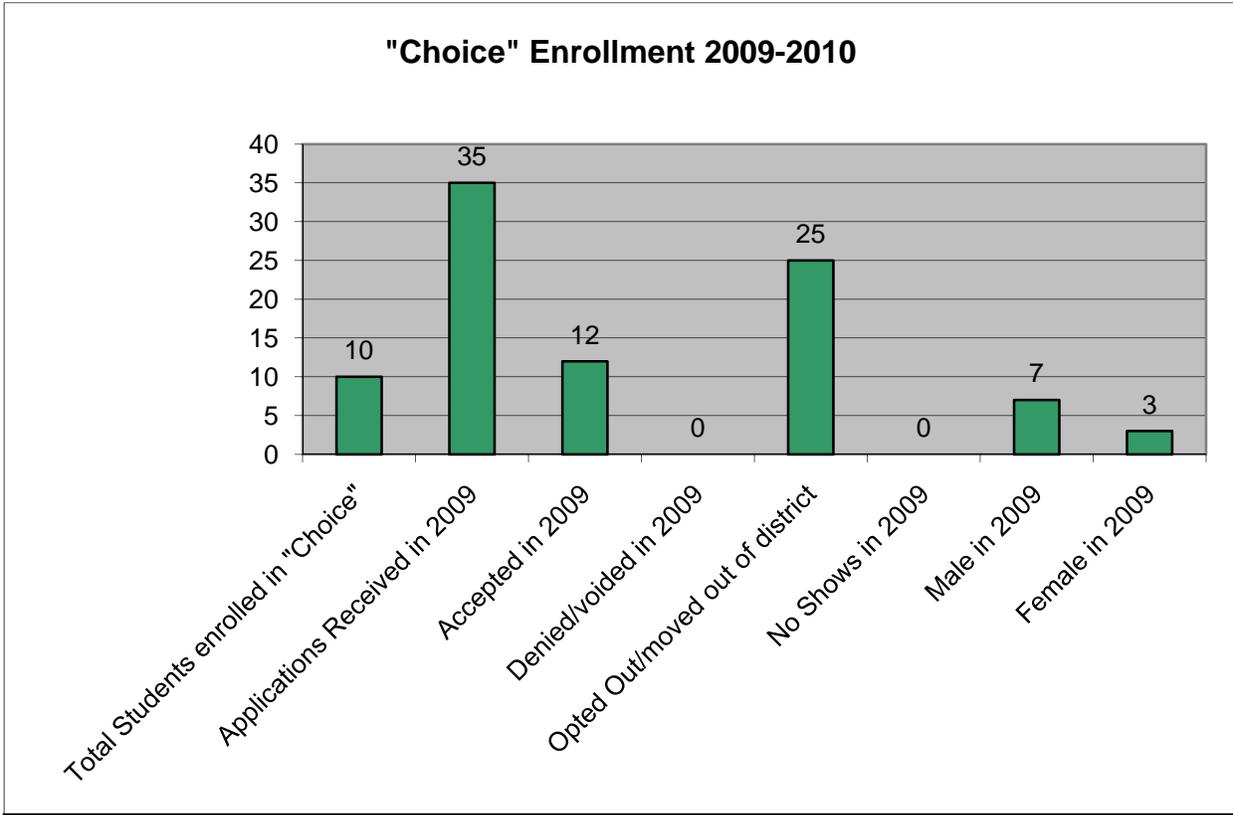
Holly Brilliant, Title I Director
School District 11
1115 North El Paso
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Please call 520-2419 for more information.
Applications may be faxed to 520-2421.

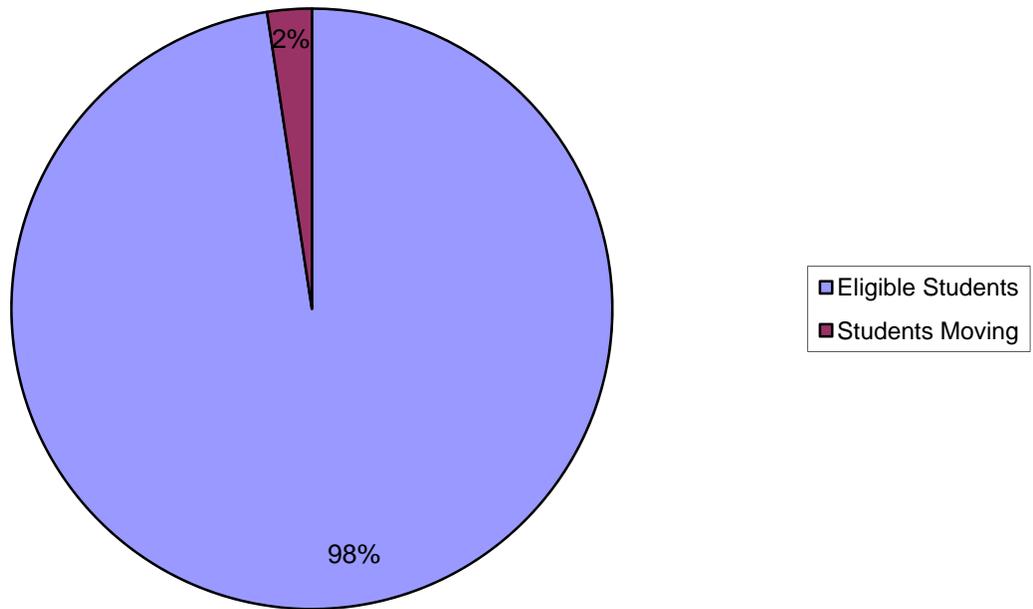
Late applications will not be accepted.

School "Choice" Data

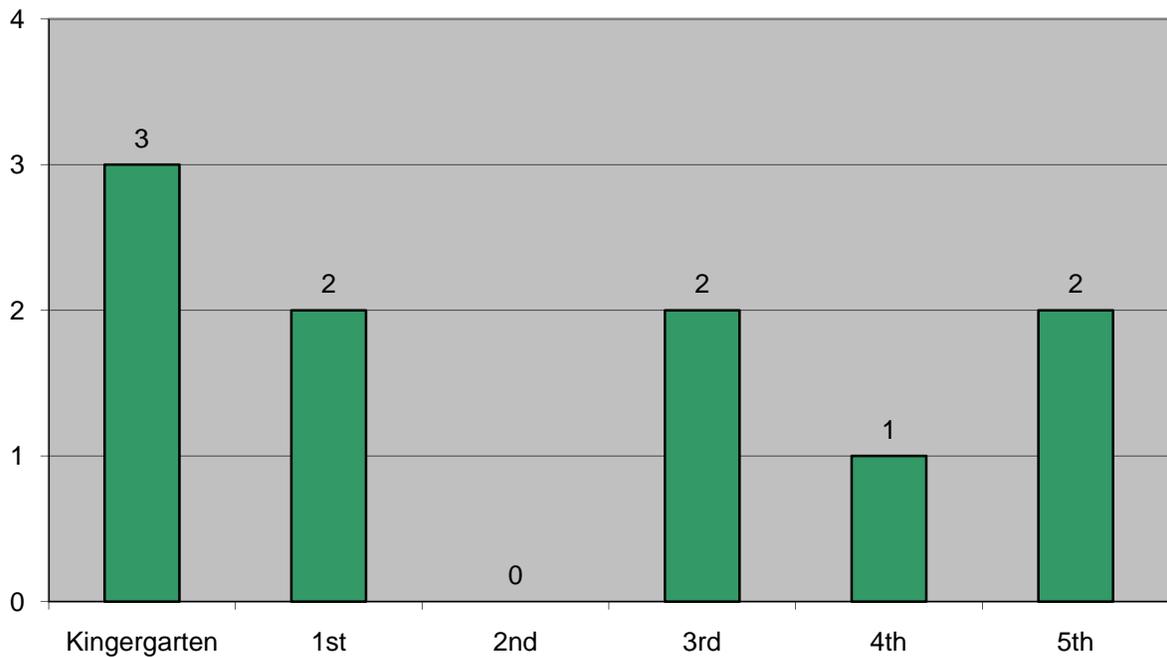
The following chart details the number of Title I "Choice" applications for the 2009-2010 school year, and the number of students who have chosen to exercise their "Choice" option since the inception of the Title I "Choice" program in 2002-2003 school year. For 2009-2010, a total of 10 students enrolled in "Choice", out of 409 letters offering this option in August 2009. Thirty-five applications were received with 23 parents choosing to leave their students at Monroe. Two additional parents exercised their option to leave their child at the home school after applying and being accepted. No applications were denied. Fifty-three applications-13%-were returned as undeliverable.

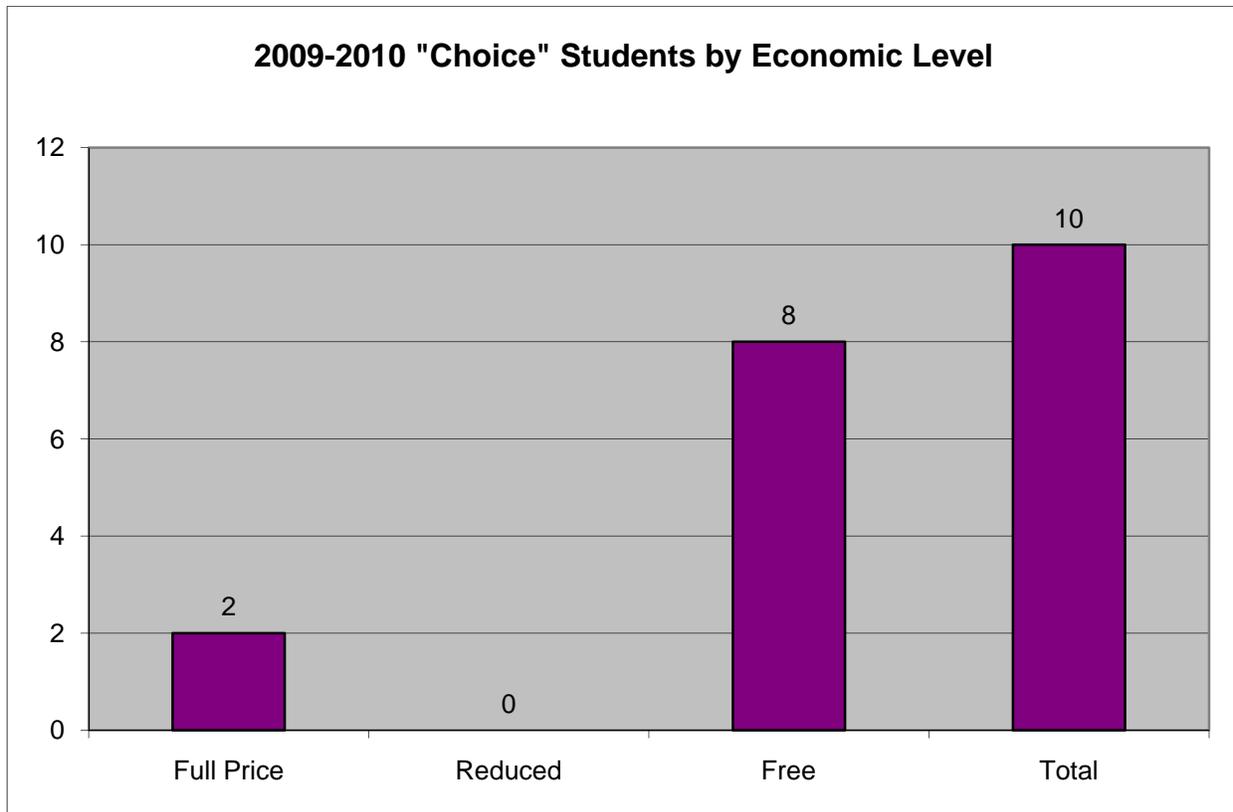
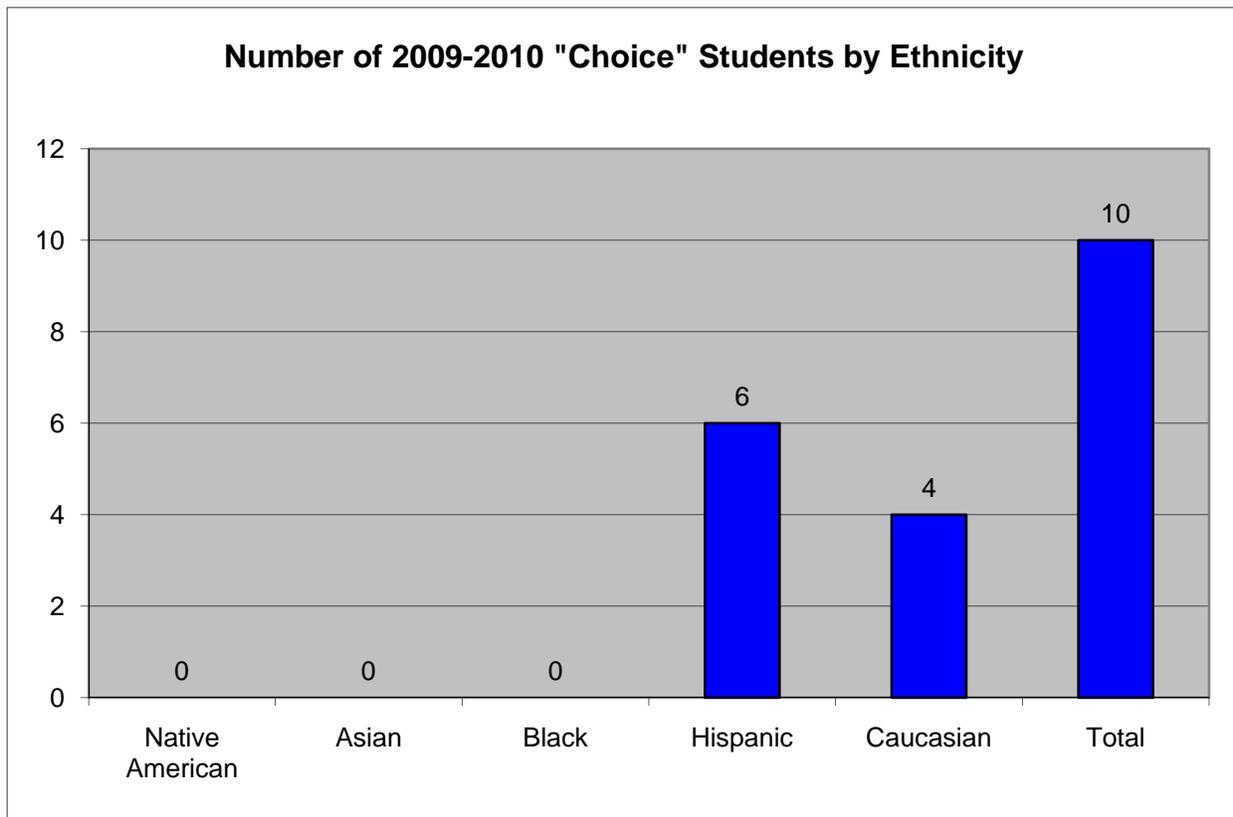


Percent of Eligible Students Leaving Monroe Elementary



Number of 2009-2010 "Choice" Students by Grade Level



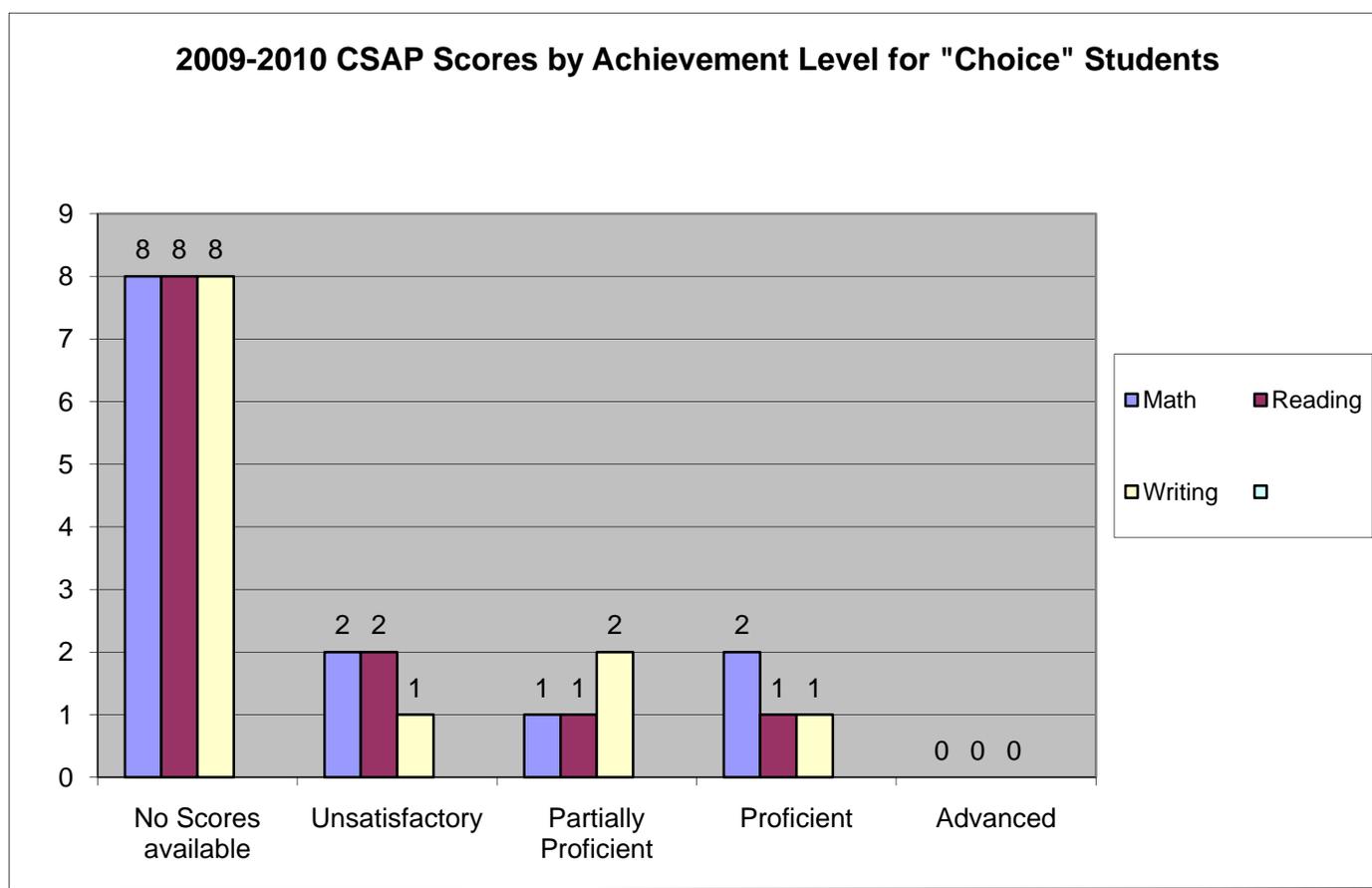


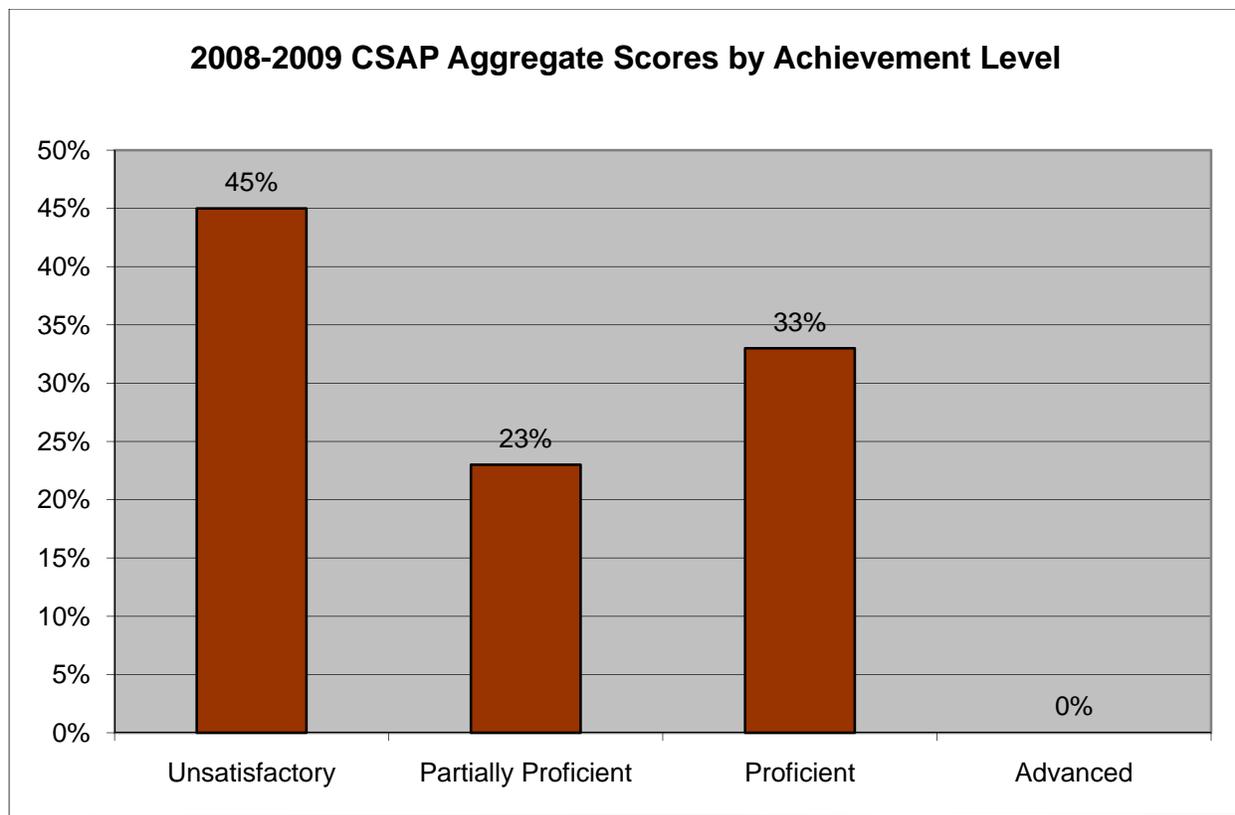
Schools Attended by 2009-2010 “Choice” Students

For the 2009-2010 school year, two elementary schools were designated as “receiving” schools for Title I “Choice” students. This table shows the number of students leaving a School Improvement status home schools and which receiving school they chose.

Madison Elementary	9
Henry Elementary	1

The following information details the 2009 Colorado Student Assessment Program results from students exercising “Choice” for the 2009-2010 school year.





The state defines Adequate Yearly Progress as students who score in the Partially Proficient, Proficient, and Advanced categories. According to this definition, 56% of the students who exercise their Title I “Choice” option are proficient by the state’s definition.

Conclusions for Title I “Choice”

- Issues regarding the timely return of AYP data on which to base Title I “Choice” decisions continue. Districts will continue to face making decisions based upon preliminary data if the timelines remain the way they currently exist.
- Out of 409 eligible students, only 10, or 3%, actually exercised their Title I “Choice” option by changing schools. This is the second lowest percentage in District 11 since the inception of the program in 2002. (the only year with a lower percentage was 2007-2008).
- In prior years, white students have exercised their choice option more than other ethnicities, a trend that seems to have subsided for 2009-2010. More Hispanic students took advantage of the opportunity to Choice out.
- Full-price lunch students comprise nearly 20% of those students transferring to a higher-performing school.
- Title I “Choice” was developed to give poor-performing students an educational option. In District 11, we are finding that more higher-performing students are leaving the Improvement schools than lower performing ones. This puts the future of the Improvement status schools in question.

Supplemental Educational Services

At the end of the 2008-2009 school year, nine schools in District 11 were closed, including Emerson Edison Charter Academy. Due to the closure of Emerson, no schools in District 11 were on 2nd year Improvement Status during the 2009-2010 school year.

No Supplemental Educational Services were offered in District 11 during the 2009-2010 school year.