

## Open Enrollment

Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools (PLSAS) has a legal obligation to offer open enrollment where space is available. To help ease overcrowding in our schools, PLSAS is limiting open enrollment to 1% for grades K-12 for the remainder of 2016-17 through the 2017-18 school year.

When deciding to close open enrollment, administration must weigh several factors, as outlined in the chart below.

<b>With Open Enrollment (OE) We Have:</b>	<b>Without Open Enrollment (OE):</b>
The ability to balance class sizes among the neighborhood schools.	Because the district has neighborhood schools, class sizes will vary from school to school. If open enrollment is closed over a prolonged time period, elementary attendance boundary changes may be needed to balance K-5 enrollment.
Staff schools and programs efficiently.	We are not able to control where students move into our district but we can control enrollment growth and balance class sizes through the open enrollment option. For example, if one particular school has a grade level that is lower in enrollment, we can place open enrolled students at that site to create class size balance across the grade level and staff accordingly.
Financial balance. Current funding from the State of MN is not enough to maintain or add programming. Additional revenue from open enrollment helps the district maintain a fund balance. The district receives the same funding dollars for resident and open enrolled students. The additional revenue received due to increased student population (resident and/or open enrolled) helps to maintain and add programming.	PLSAS currently loses 717 K-12 students to open enrollment and has 1,023 students who open enroll into the district. Open enrollment provides a financial balance to offset the resident students who leave the district each year. A stagnant student population and stagnant operating funding from the state will not support our current level of programming.