

NASHVILLE BIG PICTURE HIGH SCHOOL

one student at a time

160 Rural Avenue
Nashville, TN 37209
615-353-2081

Application 2010-2011

A message to prospective parents & students

At The Nashville Big Picture High School our goal is to inspire students to become life-long independent learners. We aim to empower students to take charge of their learning in order to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to achieve success beyond high school.

We use a multi-faceted educational model that works best when students are motivated and accountable for their learning. There are five academic *Learning Goals* that help students develop problem-solving skills, express themselves creatively, expand their knowledge base, and design projects – all the while challenging themselves with new ideas. Nashville Big Picture High School is also a Technology Demonstration School.

Our Internship program, *Learning Through Interests*, provides a vehicle for connecting real world learning to curriculum. At the Nashville Big Picture High School, we utilize the internship and mentor relationship to create a full circle of learning through project-based work.

At the Nashville Big Picture High School, *we are enrolling families* who are looking for a school with a spirit of community. We are looking for students with an appreciation for cultural diversity, willingness to build relationships based on trust, and students who will enrich life within our school and community.

I thank you in advance for taking the time to apply to the Nashville Big Picture High School; I encourage you to come and explore real-world learning with us.

What makes Big Picture High School Different?

Learning in the Real World: Internships

- Internships for 10-12 hours per week in two days
- Mentors who are experts in their respective fields
- Authentic Projects which delve into academic investigations

One Student at a Time: Personalization

- Understanding and Pursuit of BP Learning Goals
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Empirical Reasoning
- Social Reasoning
- Communications
- Personal Qualities

Authentic Assessment

- Quarterly Exhibitions
- Portfolios
- Narrative Assessment each Quarter
- Real World Standards

School Organization

- Small School (maximum 120)
- Small Advisories (maximum 15)
- Strong Culture of Communication
- Learning Through Internships in the community

Advisory Structure

- Small group with multiple year relationship
- Advisor is the sole manager of each student's learning team and the facilitator of the Learning Plan.
- Advisors focus on building relationships with students
- Advisory time occurs twice daily (on non-LTI days), outside of student independent work

School Culture

- Intense Focus on school culture and creating a strong community.
- Students are comfortable with adults
- Staff deeply trusts the students and students trust the staff
- Adults – strong sense of teamwork
- Weekly written reflection for the school (TGIF)

Leadership

- Principal is trained by Big Picture with a mentor/intern relationship
- Essential leadership qualities of distinguished principals
- To an intense degree, there is a uniquely powerful learning community among advisors

Parent / Family Engagement

- Families are educated and asked to play an active role in the school life of their children
- Parental voice is encouraged and sought out
- Families attend and participate in Learning Plan meetings and exhibitions each quarter

School-College Partnership / College Prep

- All students in the school take the college entrance exam
- All students apply to college

Professional Development for Advisors

- Formal professional development for advisors
- Regularly scheduled retreats

Expectations and Understandings for Parents

- Attend all four of my child's exhibitions each year
- Attend two of four Learning Plan Meetings for my child each year
- Attend at least one whole school community function (Open House, Family Skills and Talent Fair, etc.) Plus the End-of-the-Year Celebration each year
- Keep regular communication with my child's advisor
- Help with and monitor my child's work at home each day
- Make sure my child gets to school on time each day
- Devote at least ten hours of community service to the school (volunteering during the day, serving on the Family Engagement Committee, chaperoning trips, etc.)
- Report any changes in address or phone number immediately to the office of my child's campus.

- I understand that my child must participate in an internship twice a week for all four years at the Big Picture High School.
- There are no formal, year-long courses such as English, Math, Science, Social Studies, etc.
- Each student's learning is built around his/her internships and projects, not around subjects
- There are no grades given (A, B, C, D, or F), but a detailed narrative on the student's performance is written each quarter. When a student graduates or transfers, narratives will be converted to standard point averages.
- Students read and learn from novels, trade books, recommended readings, the internet, and from creating their own work. When textbooks are used, it is in the context of the student's project and interests, or in a college class.

**Nashville Big Picture High School (NBPHS)
Release and Informed Consent Form**

I/We, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of _____ (student's name), and I, the student, give permission and/or agree to fully participate in all activities associated with the Nashville Big Picture High School at the following locations:

1. Learning Through Internship Site
2. Others including: Field Trips, Informational Interviews, Job Shadow Days and Extracurricular Activities.

In connection with and consideration of my/my son/daughter's participation in the NBPHS, I, on behalf of my child/myself, my heirs, personal representative(s) and assigns, hereby represent and agree as follows:

1. I am aware that injuries may occur during participation in the NBPHS and I fully recognize and understand that there are risks and hazards, both minor and serious, associated with participation in the NBPHS and related activities, including, but not limited to: cuts, scrapes, bruises, broken bones and other bodily injuries. The following is a description and examples of specific, significant, non-obvious dangers and risks associated with this program. There is potential for accidents and/or injuries arising from:
 - a. Participating in activities associated with this program.
 - b. Transportation by public carrier, vehicle driven by a Metro representative, or program volunteer.
 - c. Fire and/or weather related events.
2. I understand that I am/my son/daughter is not in any way required to participate in the NBPHS, but I want to/I want him/I want her to participate, despite the possible dangers and despite this Release.
3. I understand that photographs may be taken of me/my son/daughter while engaged in activities of the NBPHS. Such photographs will be used to promote NBPHS and possibly appear in different media forms. I agree that I/my son/daughter may be photographed for this purpose. I give my permission for my son/daughter to be interviewed by media concerning the activities surrounding his/her experience.
4. I represent and warrant that I have/my child has no physical, health related or other problems, which would preclude my/his/her participation in the NBPHS or otherwise render my/his/her participation dangerous or harmful to them or others.
5. Knowing the dangers, hazards, and risks associated with the NBPHS and with sufficient knowledge of my/my child's physical condition(s) and limitations, if any, I voluntarily assume all responsibility and risk of loss, damage, illness and/or injury to person or property which I/my child may, in any way, sustain in connection with participation in the NBPHS and related activities.
5. I agree that I/my child must abide by all rules and regulations applicable to participation in the NBPHS. Should I/my son/daughter require medical treatment or first aid as a result of illness or injury associated with NBPHS or related activities, I consent to such first aid and/or treatment.
6. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby release and forever discharge, and agree not to sue and to indemnify and hold harmless, the Metropolitan Government, officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all liabilities, claims, demands and causes of action of any kind on account of any loss, damage, illness or injury to person or property in any way arising out of or relating to my/my son/daughter's participation in NBPHS and/or related activities, whether due to negligence, mistake or other action or inaction of the Metropolitan Government or any other person or entity.

I CERTIFY THAT I AM 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND THAT I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS RELEASE AND INFORMED CONSENT FORM, AND I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

Participating Student's Name (Please Print)

Signature of Participating Student Date

Name(s) of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) (Please Print)

Signature(s) of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Having Care and Custody of Participating Student Date

Telephone Nos. _____ (Work) _____ (Home)

Application Process

The Nashville Big Picture School engages students and their families in all aspects of the application, admission, and educational process. In order to apply to the Nashville Big Picture School, students and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) must complete the following steps:

Step 1: Complete parts 1 to 4 of this application and the magnet/specialty school application and mail or deliver to the Customer Service via the instructions below.

Step 2: Completed application must be returned to customer service at 2601 Bransford Ave. to be considered for acceptance to the limited number of openings. Applications will be evaluated and considered for acceptance in the order they are received at customer service.

Step 3: Once you have been selected by committee review, you will be invited for an interview with an advisor, or Nashville Big Picture School staff member, to assure that the Nashville Big Picture School is the right school for you. You will receive a letter in the mail informing you of the meeting location, date and time.

Step 4: You should attach the most recent report card to your application. After being selected for an interview you must make available your final eighth grade report card.

All completed application materials should be hand delivered to:

MNPS Customer Service

2601 Bransford Ave

Nashville, Tennessee 37204



Application

PART 1

STUDENT NAME			
	LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE

Preferred Phone Number	()-()-()	GENDER	M	F
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Parent/Guardian's Email Address

ADDRESS		APT#	
CITY		GRADE FOR 2010-11	
ZIP		FREE/REDUCED LUNCH?	YES NO

ETHNIC GRP	BLACK	HISPANIC	ASIAN	WHITE
	AMER IND	PACIFIC		

BIRTH DATE mm/dd/yyyy	AGE	Transcript	Current School	IEP? Yes No
	Is 2010/11 going to be the first year this applicant will be taking 9 th grade classes? Circle one. Yes No	If 2010/11 is not the first year the applicant will be taking 9 th grade classes, please attach a copy of his/her latest transcript.		Some Special Education Services are not available at NBPHS. The Student's IEP must be followed as written.

PARENT/GUARDIAN		H PHONE	
		C PHONE	
		W PHONE	
PARENT/GUARDIAN		H PHONE	
		C PHONE	
		W PHONE	

By my signature I certify that the information on this application is complete and correct and understand that incomplete applications **will not** be accepted and will be eliminated from the selection process.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

