

## **INTRA-DISTRICT CHOICE/OPEN ENROLLMENT**

The Board of Education endorses the neighborhood school concept and makes many decisions based on student population within the attendance areas of residence. The Board recognizes, however, that resident students may wish to attend a school or participate in a program located in an area other than that of their assigned school. Therefore, students shall be allowed to attend any school or participate in any program of their choice on a space available, randomly selected basis.

In implementing the open enrollment program, 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 within a requested school.
2. Establish and offer any particular program in a school if such program is not offered currently in such 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. Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, a student may be assigned outside his or her attendance area by mutual agreement of the principals in the special interest of the student and/or school.
4. Alter or modify, in any way, established staffing assignments.

### **Open Enrollment and Transfers**

Students within a designated attendance area shall have priority in registering in that school. Students may apply for open enrollment in a school outside their attendance area and such applications shall be approved if there is space available in the requested school.

Students granted permission to attend a school other than the school in their assigned attendance area shall have the same curricular and extracurricular status as all other students attending the school.

Transfer students attending a school outside their attendance area shall be granted admission on a year-to-year basis. In the event the population of the attendance area increases to fill the building with attendance area residents, transfer students may be asked to enroll in another school. If transfer students fail to meet the behavioral and/or attendance expectations of a given school, their transfer may be revoked by the building principal.

The Board reserves the right to rescind and/or amend any or all open enrollments or transfers if, in its opinion, overcrowding of facilities or undesirable conditions develop. Articulation areas may adopt temporary rules governing open enrollments and transfers to accommodate the opening of new schools, the closing of schools, the changing of boundaries, or the management of residential growth. Those temporary rules must be approved by the superintendent or designee.

## **Transportation**

Except as may be required by law, transportation for resident students granted permission to attend a school or program outside their attendance area is the responsibility of their parents or guardians. The district may in its discretion allow students to ride in district buses on a space available basis provided such transportation does not disrupt regular routes or require new loading areas.

## **Unlawful Discrimination**

The Board, the superintendent, other administrators, and teachers shall not make any distinction on account of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, religion, or disability of any student who may be in attendance or who seeks admission to any school maintained by the district in the determination or recommendation of action under this policy.

However, the Board reserves the right to restrict open enrollment and transfer requests if such requests are inconsistent with the legitimate educational concerns of the district.

## **Special Education Students**

Requests from the parents of special education students for open enrollment or transfer to another school or program shall be considered in accordance with 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.

Policy Adopted: 10/02