

Policy Title:

Open Enrollment as a Receiving District

Code No. *501.10*

The school district will participate in open enrollment as a receiving district. As a receiving district, the Board of Education will allow nonresident students, who meet the legal requirements, to open enroll into the school district. The Board of Education shall have complete discretion to determine the attendance center of the students attending the school district under open enrollment.

The Board of Education shall take action on the open enrollment request in accordance with the timelines established by law before the year preceding the first year desired for open enrollment. The superintendent or designee will notify the sending school district and parents within five days of the school district's action, but not later than June 1, to approve or deny the open enrollment request.

Open enrollment requests into the school district will not be approved if insufficient classroom space exists. Insufficient classroom space exists when conditions adversely affect the implementation of the educational philosophy and program of the Board. Insufficient classroom space is determined on a case-by-case basis. In making its determination whether insufficient classroom space exists, the Board of Education may consider several factors, including but not limited to, the nature of the education program, the grade level, the available licensed employees, the instructional method, the physical space, student-teacher ratios, equipment and materials, facilities either being planned or under construction, facilities planned to be closed, current and projected financial condition of the school district, a sharing agreement in force or planned, a bargaining agreement in force, laws or rules governing special education class size, board-adopted school district goals and objectives, and other factors considered relevant by the Board of Education.

Open enrollment requests into the school district will also not be approved for students who have been suspended or expelled by the administration or the board of the school district the student is or was attending until the student has been reinstated into the school district from which the student was suspended or expelled. Once the student is reinstated, the student's open enrollment request will be considered in the same manner as other open enrollment requests provided the required timelines are met.

Open enrollment requests into the school district that, if denied, would result in students from the same nuclear family being enrolled in different school districts, will be given highest priority. The Board of Education, in its discretion, may waive the insufficient classroom space reason for denial for students of the same nuclear family to prevent the division of a nuclear family between two school districts. Other open enrollment requests into the school district shall be considered in the order received by the school district with the first open enrollment request given a higher priority than the second open enrollment request and so forth.

Generally, students in grades 9 through 12 open enrolling into the school district shall not be eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics, at the varsity level, during the first 90 days of open enrollment into the school district. However, such students may be eligible to participate if an exception provided by law is applicable to the student.

Parents of students whose open enrollment requests are approved by the Board of Education shall be responsible for providing transportation to and from the receiving school district without reimbursement unless the parents qualify for transportation assistance as provided by law. The Board of Education will not approve transportation into the sending district except as may be required by law.

An open enrollment request into the school district from parents of a special education student is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The determining factors for approval of such an open enrollment request will be whether the special education program available in the school district is appropriate for the student's needs and whether the enrollment of the special education student will cause the class size to exceed the maximum allowed. The decision of whether an appropriate program is available will be made by the school district, in consultation with the sending district and the appropriate area education agency(ies) before approval is granted. The special education student shall remain in the sending district until the final determination is made.

The policies of the school district shall apply to students attending the school district under open enrollment.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent or designee to develop appropriate office procedures and administrative regulations necessary for open enrollment requests.

Date of Adoption: September 11, 1989

Dates of Revision: August 12, 1991
October 14, 1991
January 11, 1993
July 8, 1996
July 10, 2000
January 13, 2003
July 18, 2005
October 27, 2008
June 8, 2009
April 8, 2013
August 8, 2016
June 12, 2017