

Sample policy language to consider.

Students

School Attendance Areas

The Board of Education shall establish attendance zones to facilitate educational programs and to use existing facilities with optimum effectiveness. The Superintendent of Schools shall recommend school attendance areas in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Safety of students;
2. Student educational needs;
3. Educational programs to be housed;
4. Optimum use of existing facilities;
5. Student residential patterns;
6. Ages of students served;
7. Racial/ethnic balance.

Assignment to attendance zones shall be subject to modification when federal law applicable to students placed in foster care or students who are homeless requires that such students be educated in a “school of origin” that differs from the assigned attendance area.

Optional Provision

Although students in an attendance area have first choice of schools in that area, the Board of Education also accepts "controlled free zoning" within the following guidelines:

1. Where space exists, students from other attendance areas may apply for membership within rated capacities of school buildings.
2. Parents of students choosing out of area attendance shall provide student transportation.
3. Students out of normal attendance areas will remain in chosen schools at least one year.

(cf. 5118.1 – Homeless Students)

(cf. 5118.3 – Children in Foster Care)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-55 Pupils to attend regional school.
10-226a Pupils of racial minorities.
10-226b Existence of racial imbalance.
10-226c Plan to correct imbalance.
10-226d Approval of plan by state board.

Policy adopted:
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An optional policy to consider.

Students

School Assignment and Racial Balance

The Board of Education shall operate the District Schools in accordance with State law, including Connecticut General Statute 10-226a through 10-266e, et seq. In complying with that law, the Board shall implement a Redistricting Program where it is determined to be necessary.

The Board of Education will provide every student with a quality education. The Board firmly believes that a racially balanced student body is an important component of quality education. The Board realizes that the imbalanced concentration of racial groupings in schools, from whatever cause, is one of the factors which inhibits the educational development of the children involved and that the existence of racial imbalance is inconsistent with the democratic principle of equality of educational opportunity.

The Board also recognizes that the solution to racial imbalance is a matter of total community concern and one in which the parents, students, and staff of all schools must accept their share of responsibility. The Board will adhere to the concept that the inconvenience or burden to achieve racial balance in the district shall not be borne disproportionately by any one minority group, as defined by the State.

Assignment to attendance zones shall be subject to modification when federal law applicable to students placed in foster care or students who are homeless requires that such students be educated in a “school of origin” that differs from the assigned attendance area.

(cf. 5118 – Nonresident Students)

(cf. 5118.1 – Homeless Students)

(cf. 5118.3 – Children in Foster Care)

(cf. 5122 – Assignment of Students to Schools)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-226a Pupils of racial minorities.
 10-226b Existence of racial imbalance.
 10-226c Plan to correct imbalance.
 10-226d Approval of plan by state board.

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