

## **Unity School District - Board of Education**

### **Board Policy 423.1**

#### **Public School Choice - Part Time High School Open Enrollment**

**Last Revised 1/14/2020**

The Board will provide students enrolled in the District, including nonresidents enrolled through a whole grade sharing agreement with the student's resident school district, with the ability to take up to two (2) courses at any given time in a non-resident public school district. Likewise, the Board will consider the enrollment of a non-resident student in up to two (2) courses per term under the criteria set forth in this policy and any criteria required by law.

#### **Resident Student Applications for Part-Time Open Enrollment**

##### **A. General Procedures**

The parent of any student enrolled as a resident of the District or a nonresident enrolled through a whole grade sharing agreement with the student's resident school district who wishes to attend one (1) or two (2) courses at a non-resident school district under this policy shall make a written application to such non-resident district no less than six (6) weeks prior to the beginning of the term in which the course(s) are offered. The application:

1. must be on a form provided by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction;
2. must be copied to the Board at the same time as the application is made to the non-resident school district.

##### **B. Decisional Criteria for Resident Applications**

The Board shall review all applications received under this policy to attend courses at a non-resident school district under the criteria below. Both the non-resident school district of proposed attendance and the Board must approve the course.

Acceptance or denial of any resident student's application shall be made no later than one (1) week prior to the start of the course. Rejection of a student's application to attend such courses shall be made in writing and shall provide an explanation of the reason for rejecting the application. One of the following reasons must be the basis for such rejection:

1. *Individualized Education Program (IEP)*. If the Board determines that the proposed course conflicts with the student's IEP, the Board shall reject the course.
2. *Undue Financial Burden*. The Board may reject an application if the cost of the course would impose an undue financial burden on the District considering the totality of the District's economic circumstances, including applicable revenue limits, ability to pay the cost of tuition, and the per student cost of educating all District students.

If the District determines that the course does not satisfy the District's high school graduation requirements, it shall notify the student in writing of this determination at least one week prior to the start date of the course. This notice shall be provided whether the application is approved or rejected.

## **Non-Resident Student Applications for Part-Time Open Enrollment**

### **A. General Procedures**

The parent of any non-resident student that wishes to attend one or two courses offered by the District shall make a written application to the Board no less than six (6) weeks prior to the beginning of the term in which the course(s) are offered. The application:

1. must be on a form provided by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction;
2. must be copied to the student's resident School Board at the same time as the application is made to the non-resident School Board.

### **B. Decisional Criteria**

The Board will determine acceptance or rejection of a non-resident student's application to attend courses in the District using the same criteria and policies for entry into the course that apply to resident students, except that preference for attendance may be given to resident students.

Applications from non-resident students that are already accepted into two courses in a particular term will be rejected on that ground. If a particular course has limited enrollment, those spots not taken by resident students will be allocated to non-resident applicants under this policy that otherwise qualify for enrollment on a randomly selected basis.

The parents and the resident school district are to be notified, in writing, no later than one (1) week prior to the commencement of the course whether the application has been accepted or rejected. If accepted, the notification is to include the name of the school the student is to attend and that the enrollment is valid only for the forthcoming semester or school year or special time period during which the course(s) will be offered. If rejected, the notice shall state the reason for the rejection.

## **General Requirements**

### **A. Notice of Intent to Enroll**

The parents of the student must notify both the resident school district and the district in which the student has applied for part-time open enrollment of the student's intent to enroll after receipt of the decision to accept the application but before the beginning of the applicable course.

### **B. Transportation**

By enrolling in a course under this policy either as a resident or non-resident, the parent understands that the parent is responsible for transporting the student to and from any courses attended under this policy, unless the Department of Public Instruction agrees to reimburse the parent directly for such costs.

### **C. Tuition for Attendance at Another School District**

Tuition costs shall be paid for by the resident school district in an amount equal to the cost of the course(s) as determined by the Department of Public Instruction.

### **D. Appeal of Rejection**

Any application that is rejected under this policy may be appealed to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction within thirty (30) days of the decision. The State Superintendent's decision is final and will only reverse the initial decision if that decision was arbitrary or unreasonable.