Attendance Areas

Attendance areas (also called attendance zones) for District schools shall be established by the Board.

The purpose of establishing attendance areas shall be to:

- 1. Maintain the neighborhood school concept;
- Prevent, reduce, and eliminate overcrowding;
- 3. Allow for future growth;
- 4. Keep distances traveled by students as short as possible;
- 5. Minimize the need for student transportation; and
- 6. Allow campuses to house students safely and provide adequate services to all students.

Student Assignment

Students shall attend school in the attendance zone in which they reside unless enrolled in a magnet school, assigned to another school through an enrollment capping procedure or special program placement, assigned to another school for disciplinary reasons, or approved for continued enrollment or transfer at another campus.

Temporary Student Assignment

A student shall be allowed to attend a school other than the campus of the attendance area in which the student resides if all of the following criteria are met:

- 1. The parent has entered into a contract to construct, purchase, or lease a residence in the requested attendance area and provides the District a copy of the executed contract;
- The parent and student shall begin occupying the residence during the school semester in which the temporary assignment is sought; and
- 3. The parent can provide documented proof of the expected move-in or occupancy date.

A student who resides in another school district and who is allowed a temporary student assignment due to home construction, purchase, or lease shall be required to pay tuition from the first day of enrollment if the student does not occupy the new residence within the semester in which the temporary assignment was granted.

A student who fails to meet move-in date requirements may be denied a continued temporary student assignment.

Change of Student Residence Within District

A student whose place of residence changes from one attendance area within the District to another attendance area within the District during the school year may be permitted to finish the school

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SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS

FC (LOCAL)

year at the school in which the student began. In approving continued enrollment, the Superintendent or designee shall consider availability of space and instructional staff and the student's disciplinary history and attendance records. If the student wishes to continue enrollment beyond the school year, the student or parent must follow the policies and procedures that govern intradistrict transfers. [See FDB]

Change of Student Residence Outside of District

A student whose place of residence changes from within the District to another school district during the school year may be permitted to finish the semester at the school in which the student began. In approving continued enrollment, the Superintendent or designee shall consider availability of space and instructional staff and the student's disciplinary history and attendance records. If the student wishes to continue enrollment beyond the semester, the student must follow the policies and procedures that govern interdistrict transfers and may be required to pay tuition. [See FDA]

Changing Attendance Area Boundaries

School attendance areas shall be kept as stable as possible. However, adjustments or changes shall be made whenever the District determines that there is a need to balance student loads among schools for efficient use of facilities or when it is determined to be in the best interest of the students involved. In considering attendance area changes, the best interests of all students in the District shall take precedence over the convenience or interest of students in any one school.

Attendance Zone Decision Principles

The following principles shall be among the factors considered in making attendance area changes where feasible:

- 1. Work toward common feeder patterns throughout the District.
- 2. Attempt to assign entire neighborhoods to the same school(s).
- Consider students' proximity to campuses and promote safe and reasonable walking zones to encourage healthier students.
- 4. Utilize projected student enrollment and capacity as principle measures of determining efficient use of educational facilities.
- 5. Consider the purposes of establishing attendance zones as listed in this policy.

Attendance Zone Development Process

The Board may take action regarding attendance zones at its discretion. The following attendance zone development guidelines are codified in policy for convenience, but are not required:

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SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS

FC (LOCAL)

- 1. If no students, or a number fewer than 10, live in a territory, the Board may take action to change a territory's attendance zones without any further process steps.
- If more than 10 students live in a territory being considered for attendance zone changes, the following process steps are recommended:
 - a. The Board shall take action declaring its intent to begin a rezoning process.
 - District administration under the guidance of the district's demographer shall develop a minimum of two possible attendance zone maps, including demographic and other pertinent information for the Board's consideration.
 - c. An announcement that the Board is seeking public input regarding proposed attendance zone changes at public forums and through written and digital feedback shall be publicized through available media and District communication resources. This policy does not require the District to purchase an advertisement for the purposes of soliciting public input. Principals of the schools affected shall assist in notifying area patrons.
 - d. The Board shall conduct at least two public forums to gather input regarding the proposed map recommendations prior to making decisions.

Attendance Zone Approval Process

Following study and discussion of the map recommendations; consideration of feedback garnered from public forums, if applicable; consideration of any written feedback or comments, if applicable; and deliberation of any recommendations from the Superintendent, the Board shall take appropriate action with respect to the establishment of school attendance boundaries.