

ADMISSIONS

DESIGNATION OF PERSON STANDING IN PARENTAL RELATION

A minor student residing in the District whose parent(s) or guardian does not reside in the District shall present a Power of Attorney assigning responsibility for the student in all school-related matters to an adult resident of the District. However, a student shall not be denied admission when the Superintendent determines that the student's circumstances preclude compliance with this requirement.

RESIDENCY REVIEW

The Superintendent shall determine whether a minor student residing in the District separate and apart from a parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control under order of a court is present in the District for the primary purpose of participating in extracurricular activities.

The Superintendent's determination may be appealed to the Board under GF(LOCAL), beginning at Level Three, by making a written request to the Superintendent within 15 days of the decision.

REGISTRATION FORMS

Before a minor student may be officially admitted to District schools, appropriate registration forms shall be completed and signed by the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control. Students who have reached age 18 or over shall complete and sign these forms themselves.

PLACEMENT

ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

Students entering a District school from accredited public, private, or parochial schools after grade 1 shall provide evidence of prior schooling outside the District. They shall be placed initially at the grade level reached elsewhere, pending observation by the classroom teacher, guidance personnel, and the principal. On the basis of these observations and results of tests that may be administered by appropriate District personnel, the principal shall determine the final grade placement.

For the purposes of this policy, "accredited" shall be defined as accreditation by TEA, an equivalent agency from another state, or an accrediting association recognized by the Commissioner of Education.

NON-ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

Students entering a District school from non-accredited public, private, or parochial schools, including home schools, shall be placed initially at the discretion of the principal, pending observation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the principal. Criteria for placement may include:

Scores on achievement tests, which may be administered by appropriate District personnel.

Recommendation of the sending school.

Prior academic record.

Chronological age and social and emotional development of the student.

Other criteria deemed appropriate by the principal.

TRANSFER CREDIT

The District shall validate high school credit for courses of transfer students from non-accredited public, private, or parochial schools by testing or by other evidence that the courses meet State Board requirements and standards.

PAYMENT FOR ILLEGAL ATTENDANCE

If it is found that a student obtains admission to District schools through knowing misrepresentation of residency or other qualification, or knowing misrepresentation by the parent, guardian, or the person having lawful control of the student, the District shall notify them of its intention to remove the student

from the rolls of the District ten days hence. ("Knowing" means that the party knew or should have known of the misrepresentation.)

The student or parent(s) may request a hearing before the Board. Such hearing shall be granted prior to disenrollment, unless the student or parent requests a hearing scheduled after the ten-day period. The request for such a hearing must be received by the Superintendent in writing within five days after delivery of notice of disenrollment.

In the event a student is removed from the District rolls because of failure to meet residency requirements or other qualification, the student or parents shall be billed an amount equal to actual expenditure per student in average daily attendance, determinable by the Board, minus the sum the District received from state aid sources.

WITHDRAWAL

Minor students may withdraw from school by presenting a request signed by the student's parent or guardian and stating the reason for the withdrawal. Students 18 or older may request withdrawal without a parent's or guardian's signature.

[For District withdrawal of students no longer in attendance, see FDD(LOCAL)]

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The District has requested and received a waiver from the Texas Education Agency to allow the District to limit the number of foreign exchange students in the District to no more than five per high school in any academic year. ~~and to limit any foreign exchange organization to no more than one student per high school during an academic year.~~ Students shall be considered on a first come, first served basis after all required paperwork is complete. Organizations which have not previously followed District guidelines or which have had histories of difficult or unsuccessful students may not be accepted.

An agency that sponsors exchange students who would attend District schools shall receive approval from the Superintendent or designee before finding a host family to sponsor the student. The sponsoring agency and the host family shall complete all forms necessary for the placement of the exchange student before July 1 preceding the school year in which the student is to be enrolled.

There shall be a statement from the student, supported by a statement from the sponsoring agency, giving the educational/social objectives to be accomplished by the student while enrolled in District schools.

Exchange students shall be enrolled in the District schools and shall be treated as any other student on the same level. A translated transcript shall be required for students who desire high school credits from the District. **Exchange students shall be enrolled in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade.** Exchange students may **not** graduate from District high schools. ~~only if they meet all District and TEA requirements.~~ The District accepts no financial responsibilities for the student. No tuition shall be charged.

EXCEPTION

Students sponsored by local service organizations may be exempted from the five student limitation on a case by case basis, as approved by the Superintendent or designee.

POST-GRADUATE

~~Post-graduate exchange students are students who have already completed the equivalent of high school in their native country. As post-graduate exchange students, they shall be eligible for enrollment in the District high school at their request and shall be eligible for:~~

~~Honor roll.~~

~~Participation in senior graduation exercises, only if all District and TEA requirements are met.~~

~~Post-graduate exchange students shall not be eligible for:~~

~~Academic letter awards.~~
~~Honor student rankings.~~
~~Senior class rankings.~~
~~Valedictorian or salutatorian honors.~~

GRADING

Exchange students may possess varying levels of familiarity and expertise with the English language and traditional grading may be inappropriate for some of these students. The school principal shall have the discretion to award pass or fail course grades in lieu of traditional number grades when appropriate.