

Lodi Unified School District

December 2018

TO: Lodi USD Parents
FROM: Scott McGregor, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education
Jeff Palmquist, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education
SUBJECT: Open Enrollment Policy for K-12 Students

The Lodi USD Board of Education Policy 5116.1 regarding Open Enrollment requires us to notify parents of this option at the beginning of each school year. Existing law requires each child is to attend the school in which the residence of the parent or legal guardian is located. **Assembly Bill No. 1114 adopted July 20, 1993, required that the governing board of each school district establish a policy of open enrollment within the district.**

A child already attending school in the district may request an open enrollment agreement to attend another school in the district outside of their attendance area. Pursuant to the policy, an open enrollment request must be filed by **February 1, 2019** for next year's enrollment. **New students registering for kindergarten have a deadline of February 15, 2019, to turn in the request.**

In K-6 and K-8 schools, applications must be submitted each year. In high schools and middle schools, once the application is approved, it is valid for the remaining years.

Under this policy, parents may apply for enrollment in any school, however, the following limitations will apply:

- Requests for open enrollment agreements must be received by February 1 each year for enrollment the following school year. Applications may be accepted after this time if the principal determines that special circumstances exist.
- Students are accepted only if space is available and pupils residing in the attendance area are not displaced.
- Schools will retain some seats for projected enrollment of new students coming into their attendance area whenever possible.
- The district shall retain authority to maintain appropriate racial and ethnic balance among respective schools.
- **Transportation shall not be provided** for a student on an open enrollment agreement.

Alternative attendance programs within the district include:

- **Community Day Class:** Grades 3-5 at Sutherland School. Students must meet specific criteria to qualify for enrollment.
- **Independent Study K-12:** Grades K-12 at Independence School in Lodi. Students must meet certain criteria for enrollment.

Parents may obtain an open enrollment application from their school. Notification will be made prior to June, 2019, for grades K-12, of a student's acceptance or denial for entrance to a school. If a request is denied, parents may reapply the following school year before February 1. To appeal a site level decision, parents can contact the Elementary Education or Secondary Offices. Complaints regarding the selection process can be submitted through the constituent complaint process.