

**Darien Public Schools
Darien, Connecticut**

POLICY

**Series 5100
Attendance**

Policy 5150

ADMISSION OF RESIDENT NON-RESIDENT AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Darien Public Schools provide a free public school education to all resident students in accordance with state law. The Superintendent or designee has the final authority (on behalf of the Superintendent) to resolve all matters of residency pursuant to Board of Education Policy.

Residency shall be defined as full-time occupancy of a Darien residence by at least one parent and the student. The following exceptions may apply to the attendance of non-resident students within the Darien Public Schools:

A. Former Residents:

1. In cases where a parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled as a Grade 12 student at Darien High School has changed residences from Darien to another town, the Superintendent may, at her/his discretion, authorize the student to complete her/his secondary education in the Darien Schools. The Superintendent's decision will be based on a consideration of the following factors: (a) the student is making satisfactory progress toward graduation; or (b) The student maintains satisfactory attendance and behavior records.
2. In cases where a parent or legal guardian of a student in Grades K – 11 has changed residences from Darien to another town, the Superintendent may, at his/her discretion, authorize the student to complete the current school year in Darien. The Superintendent's decision will be based on a consideration of the following factors: (a) the student is making satisfactory progress toward graduation; or (b) The student maintains satisfactory attendance and behavior records.

B. Foreign and/or exchange students:

1. Foreign and/or non-resident students studying under the auspices of approved international or philanthropic agencies in Darien may, at the discretion of the Superintendent, be admitted if they

are temporarily domiciled within the Town of Darien during the full period of their admission and comply fully with all state and federal statutory requirements.

Non-resident students who are residing with Darien residents who are not the custodial parent or guardian may attend school in Darien after submitting a sworn affidavit attesting that the residence is permanent, provided without pay to the Darien resident and not for the sole purpose of having the student attend school in Darien.

Families in the process of moving to Darien but not yet bona fide residents may enroll students in the Darien schools provided intent of residency is established by means of the following:

- A contract for the rental of a residence in Darien has been signed and occupancy will take place within three months from the time the student is enrolled.
- A contract to purchase a home in Darien has been signed and the closing is scheduled within three months from the time that the student is enrolled.
- A contract for construction of a home in Darien has been signed with a completion date within three months of the time the student is enrolled.

In the event it is discovered at any time after a child is enrolled in the Darien Public School system that s/he is not a bona fide resident of the Town of Darien, the Superintendent may, in his/her sole discretion: a) Exclude the child from school for the balance of the school year; or, b) Impose a tuition charge on any parent (or legal guardian) of the child and the resident with whom the child resides. The tuition charge may be imposed for the current school year or for any past year in which the child was enrolled in the Darien Public School system.

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