FOSTER CARE STUDENT TRANSPORTATION DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Dispute Resolution Procedure

When there is disagreement between the District and the local CWA in determining the method of transportation and/or the funding of any additional costs associated with providing such transportation to the school of origin, the District will attempt to pursue the following dispute resolution procedures:

1. A meeting will be scheduled that involves the child welfare agency, District Foster Care Point of Contact and other key partners, as applicable, with each applicable school district. The parties shall attempt to self-mediate and resolve the dispute at the local level. By mutual agreement, the parties may involve a third party to act as neutral mediator in this process.

2. If the attempt to self-mediate and resolve the dispute is unsuccessful, or if all relevant parties mutually agree to proceed directly to this step, the aggrieved parties shall notify the District Foster Care Point of Contact and follow the dispute-resolution procedure created by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI). The NDDPI shall be considered the final decision-maker. All agencies must comply with the final determination decision.

Interim Funding of Transportation

The District and the local CWA shall attempt to define a mutually-agreed-upon, interim funding arrangement that shall be implemented for a defined period of time so that the student can promptly receive transportation to the school of origin. In the absence of a voluntary interim funding arrangement, and in order to promptly provide transportation while a dispute is pending, the District will attempt to pursue an interim funding arrangement under which the District and the CWA that is responsible for the placement and care of the child shall each pay an equal share of the disputed additional costs of transportation on an interim basis until the funding dispute is resolved.

The final resolution of a funding dispute may require the full or partial reimbursement of funds that were expended under an interim arrangement for the costs of additional transportation during the intervening period of a funding dispute.

End of Manvel School District #125 Board Reg. FDH-BR2.....Approved: 2/11/19