Proposed for Deletion: The plan described in this policy is no longer in place.

P5510 DESEGREGATION AND EDUCATIONAL EQUITY PLAN - PUPIL ASSIGNMENTS

BOARD POLICY:

The Board of Education, operating within the framework of policy entitled Desegregation and Educational Equity Plan - Pupil Assignments, provides for an implementation plan so that all schools continue to operate on an integrated basis. Pupils of color and white pupils are involved in the process of selection. Pupils are reassigned on a random birthdate selection plan, when needed, to attend schools outside their neighborhood in order to establish a satisfactory racial balance in each school consistent with the racial distribution in the entire school population.

Administrative Implemental Procedures:

1. The assignments made under this policy provide a racial composition of pupil population which is reasonably consistent with the districtwide ratio. In general, the ratio of pupils of color in each school shall be between plus or minus 20 percent of the overall ratio of pupils of color in the entire school district.

2. All schools in Unified School District 259 are involved. It is necessary to assign some pupils to schools outside their neighborhoods and to defer pupils residing in residentially integrated school attendance areas. The Board of Education reviews this process annually.

3. All grade levels within each school are included. Pupils are assigned in such a manner as to achieve desegregation with minimal racial isolation. New pupils who enroll at anytime during the school year will be assigned by the selection plan operating at the beginning of the school year.

4. Middle and high school pupils
   All pupils who have legal residences within the Assigned Attendance Area (AAA) will be assigned to middle and high schools throughout the district.
   a. In general, all pupils will accompany their elementary school classmates into middle and high schools.
   b. Insofar as possible, all children from a family will be assigned to one school serving the appropriate grade levels.
   c. Appeals of assignment to a secondary school shall be processed as all other requests for special assignment.

5. Elementary school pupils
   a. Pupils of color having legal residences in the AAA or areas adjacent to the AAA may be assigned to schools throughout the district. Lawful custodians wishing their children to attend their neighborhood elementary school may request a transfer under provisions in Board policy entitled *Special Assignment of Pupils.* If such a request is not approved, the lawful custodian may then follow the procedures outlined in 5e below.

Proposed for Deletion: The plan described in this policy is no longer in place.

b. White and some pupils of color who have legal residence outside the AAA are subject to four methods of selection.
   (1) Magnet schools will be established to satisfy existing and future community interests and demands. Major efforts will be undertaken to inform the various publics, and especially those underrepresented in magnet schools, about the existence and availability of magnet schools.
   (2) Volunteers - A continued effort will be undertaken each year to enlist volunteers. A districtwide recruitment shall be annually conducted by each building principal, coordinated by the Pupil Accounting Department. Lawful custodians may always volunteer the siblings of a child who was chosen by random selection. After the announced date for volunteering has passed, additional volunteers are placed on a waiting list until it is determined that space is available.
      a) Pupils residing in areas which are naturally integrated and therefore deferred may not volunteer to be bussed to another school unless those pupils have been attending that school for the Desegregation Program. Incoming siblings of those pupils may volunteer provided there is an older sibling continuing to be bussed as described above.
   (3) The discretionary method will complement the other methods of selection through the continuance or relocation of special education and other special programs in selected elementary schools.
   (4) Random selection method - When a combination of the magnet schools, volunteer and discretionary methods are insufficient to achieve the desired racial composition in schools, the random selection method will be used to provide sufficient pupils.
      (a) Each year the president of the Board of Education will blindly select a list of birthdates from among several prepared. Lists of randomly selected birthdates will be prepared and presented to the president in sealed envelopes.
      (b) Pupils will be selected by using a sufficient number of birthdates in the order selected to supply the number of pupils needed. Siblings of selected pupils may volunteer to join other members of the family so selected.

c. Kindergarten
   (1) Kindergarten level pupils of color residing in the Assigned Attendance Area who would normally be assigned to non Chapter 1 elementary schools outside the Assigned Attendance Area (pursuant to 5a above) may be assigned to kindergarten in one of the schools located in the Assigned Attendance Area.
   (2) White kindergarten level pupils may be assigned according to the provisions in 5b above. Both the volunteer method and the random selection method will be utilized to select white pupils.
   (3) Appropriate monitoring and controls will be established to maintain kindergarten classes in the Assigned Attendance Area that are approximately 60 percent pupils of color.

d. Deferments
   (1) Any white pupil who has attended a designated AAA school for one school year should be encouraged to continue at that school or may attend the neighborhood school.
   (2) Pupils of color who have legal residences in predominantly white residential areas will normally attend neighborhood schools. Exceptions are reviewed with the Board of Education annually.
   (3) Pupils residing in the AAA, except pupils of color, are assigned to the neighborhood school serving that area.
   (4) Pupils enrolled in special education programs are deferred.
   (5) Pupils residing in neighborhoods which are identified as racially desegregated by residence are deferred. The Board of Education reviews this annually.
   (6) Pupils are deferred by the action of a review committee only when, in the committee's judgment, there exists an extreme hardship or a severe medical or psychological problem.

e. Appeals for Deferment from the Desegregation Plan
   (1) In order to have a review of circumstances regarding the reassignment of a child, the lawful custodian(s) must submit written requests. The letter should contain the pupil's name, birthdate, legal residence address, what is requested, and the reason for the request.
   (2) Supportive statements from persons other than the lawful custodian(s) are accepted. If there is a medical reason given, a statement is required from the child's physician. (Forms are available in the Pupil Accounting Department.)
   (3) Letters are to be mailed to:
   (4) USD 259 - Wichita Public Schools
   Pupil Accounting Department
   Deferment Review Committee
   201 N. Water
   Wichita, KS 67202

6. A Review Committee is established to process all written requests for deferment submitted to the Pupil Accounting Department. Attempts will be made to have at least two members on the committee who were members of the same committee the previous year in order to provide consistency and continuity in deferrals. The committee should reflect the makeup of the district's student population.
   a. The committee shall consider all requests for deferral referred to it by the Pupil Accounting Department.
      (1) The committee shall conduct all appeal hearings resulting from its decisions. Committee decisions will be final unless such decisions are in violation of the law, Board of Education policy, or administrative implemental procedures. Decisions will be forwarded to the Pupil Accounting Department Supervisor who will be responsible for notifying lawful custodians of the decision.
   b. Committee membership. The Associate Superintendent for Curriculum Delivery, or designee, shall be responsible for the selection of all members of this committee. When feasible, he/she will request professional societies/agencies to name representatives, e.g., Sedgwick County Medical Society. The committee shall be

organized to include at least one of each in the following categories: teacher, counselor, psychologist, nurse, and social worker, all of whom are employees or employees who have retired from the district within the last five years.. An administrator shall chair the committee. Members with a conflict of interest shall not vote. In the event of such an appeal is for specific medical/psychological reasons, a consulting professional will be retained.

c. Meetings. This committee shall meet as needed, beginning in June and throughout the summer. Some meetings may be required after school begins. The chairperson shall have a vote in the event of a tie.
d. Compensation. Members of this committee shall receive pay for the actual hours the committee is in session when they are not on Board of Education contract.

7. The Pupil Accounting Department will be responsible for organizing volunteer recruitment, making all assignments, collecting appeal materials for the review committee, establishing procedures and administrative guidelines to implement this policy, and making all contacts with lawful custodians concerning the assignment of their children.

Administrative Responsibility: Curriculum Delivery Services
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