

## West Bonner County School District

### STUDENTS

3090

#### Foreign Exchange Students

##### Philosophy

The District believes that foreign exchange students add to the richness of the high school setting for both District and foreign students. Thus, the District is willing to enroll a manageable number of foreign exchange students.

To protect the interests of the District and students, the District has adopted the following policies. It should be realized that foreign exchange students are educated at the expense of the taxpayers of the District and the State of Idaho.

- I. The foreign exchange student must be eighteen (18) years of age or younger at the time of enrollment.
- II. The foreign exchange student must reside with a legal resident of the District. Exceptions may be granted.
- III. The foreign exchange student must have sufficient knowledge of the English language to enable effective communication and to use instructional materials and textbooks printed in English.
  - A. An English proficiency test of the District's own choosing may be administered and will supersede all other tests;
  - B. If an organization places a student who, upon arrival, is deemed by the District to be deficient in English language proficiency, the organization will do one of the following:
    1. Terminate the student's placement
    2. Provide, and pay for, tutorial help until the student reaches proficiency, as determined by the District.

##### Definitions

“Foreign student” or “F-1 visa holder” means an alien having a residence in a foreign country which he or she has no intention of abandoning, who is a bona fide student qualified to pursue a full course of study and who seeks to enter the United States temporarily and solely for the purpose of pursuing such a course of study at an established academic high school particularly designated by him or her and approved by the Attorney General after consultation with the Secretary of Education.

“Foreign exchange visitor” or “J-1 visa holder” means an alien having a residence in a foreign country which he or she has no intention of abandoning who is a bona fide student, scholar,

trainee, teacher, professor, research assistant, specialist, or leader in a field of specialized knowledge or skill, or other person of similar description, who is coming temporarily to the United States as a participant in a program designated by the Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, for the purpose of teaching, instructing or lecturing, studying, observing, conducting research, consulting, demonstrating special skills, or receiving training. The terms of “foreign exchange visitor” or “J-1 visa holder” also include the spouse and minor children of any such alien if accompanying him or her or following to join him or her.

### Academic Standards and Graduation

- I. The foreign exchange student will be expected to meet all appropriate standards required of any student enrolled in the District.
- II. Foreign exchange students **may /may not** graduate and receive a diploma from Priest River Lamanna High School. (They may participate in the ceremonies and receive a certificate of attendance.)

### Average Daily Attendance

Foreign students, pursuant to their “F-1 visa” status, will not be counted for the purpose of determining average daily attendance and will be required to reimburse the district for the costs of tuition.

Pursuant to their “J-1 visa” status, foreign exchange visitors will be counted for the purpose of determining average daily attendance and are not required to reimburse the district for the costs of tuition.

### Orientation by the Exchange Organization

- I. Orientation, both pre-departure and upon arrival in the United States, must be provided to the exchange student.
- II. Orientation must also be provided to the host family in advance of the exchange student’s arrival. The family should be advised of potential problems in hosting an exchange student and provided with suggestions for coping with these problems.
- III. The student’s host family and the District must be provided written information which includes at least:
  - A. Name, address, and phone number of both local and area coordinators for the exchange organization.
  - B. A twenty-four-(24)-hour emergency telephone number for immediate assistance by the exchange organization.

### Supervision

- I. The sponsoring foreign student exchange organization must assume the final responsibility of resolving problems, including, if necessary, the changing of host families or the early return home of the exchange student because of personal, family, or school difficulties.
- II. The sponsoring foreign student exchange organization must contact the exchange student and host family periodically throughout the exchange visit to ensure that problems are dealt with promptly and effectively.
- III. The host family must be available and willing to meet with school personnel when functions or conditions require it.

District Expectations

Student Opportunities/Responsibilities

- I. Athletic Program. Foreign exchange students are eligible to participate in the Priest River Lamanna High School Activities Program. Guidelines for participation are set by District policy and by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA), as follows:
  - A. RECOGNITION. The student must be a participant of an “official Foreign Exchange Program” as defined in the publication from the National Association of Secondary School Principals, entitled, “Advisory List of International Educational Travel and Exchange Programs”.
  - B. GRADUATION. The student cannot have graduated or received a diploma in his/her own country.
- II. Student Fees. Foreign exchange students are expected to pay all yearbook fees, lab fees, prom tickets, yearbook costs, athletic fees, cap and gown fees, lunch prices, and all other school incurred expenses that are expected of other students enrolled in Priest River Lamanna High School.
- III. Achievement and Discipline. Foreign exchange students must maintain passing grades in all classes, follow rules and regulations of District student policies, and show satisfactory discipline and attendance. Failure to comply with these expectations shall result in dismissal of the student from the District’s Foreign Exchange Program.
- IV. Scholarship(s). The District will not include names of foreign exchange students in its formal class-rank listing based on cumulative grade point average, nor will foreign exchange students be eligible to apply for any local scholarship.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. 221, et seq. Foreign and Exchange Students  
 IDAPA 08.02.03.105.03 Foreign Exchange Students

Policy History:

Adopted on: March 12, 2008

Revised on: