

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES OF THE
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 8.03
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS (INTEGRATION)**

(1) GENERAL PRINCIPLES

(a) It is the intent and purpose of the Board to continue in the development as well as the maintenance of the quality integration program that has been the hallmark of the Milwaukee Public Schools since 1976. The Board intends to continue the desegregation program, which is primarily based on the principles of choice and the concepts adopted by the Board in its statement on "education and human rights."

(b) Attendance-area schools, with their emphasis on a school improvement plan, shall serve most students. Available seats in city-wide (magnet) schools or specialty (magnet) programs shall provide an option for some students. The three-choice school selection process shall continue to operate as it has in the past, giving parents and students an opportunity to choose schools closely identified with their educational needs.

(2) RACIALLY BALANCED SCHOOLS

(a) A racially balanced school, for the purpose of student assignment, shall be defined as a school having between 30 and 70 percent black students (Board minutes, November 1991).

1. Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students shall not be included in racial balance computations.
2. Racial balance criteria shall not be applied to schools exclusively devoted to exceptional education programs or to schools with bilingual education programs (Craig, Hayes, Pierce, Forest Home, Fratney, Holmes, Pleasant View, Multilingual/Multicultural, Allen-Field, Kagel, Riley, Vieau, Kosciuszko, Edison, Milwaukee Education Center, Grand Avenue, Lincoln Center, Riverside, South).

(b) Each school, except those previously listed, shall have a minimum black enrollment of 30 percent, and each high school shall have a minimum of 250 black students. Schools with a bilingual program shall have a combined minority enrollment of 25 percent, with at least 12.5 percent black students and at least 12.5 percent other minority students (Longfellow and Mitchell).

(c) Any student desiring to attend a racially balanced school shall have the right to do so. Each year, during the school selection period, all students shall be advised of this right in writing.

(d) The Administration shall assign students in good faith with the goal of maximizing the number of students enrolled within the Milwaukee Public Schools in racially balanced schools.

(3) TRANSFERS

The parents or legal guardians of a student who is enrolled in the Milwaukee Public Schools, or the student if 18 or older, may request a transfer from a school in the district in which the student resides to another attendance-area school in the city, subject to the following basic conditions:

(a) The parents, or student if 18 or older, assume(s) the responsibility for requesting a transfer by securing the appropriate form from a school or the division of Student Services office at the Central Services building.

(b) The parents, or student if 18 or older, submit(s) the request for a transfer during the period set for the respective school year within which they wish to have the transfer take effect.

(c) Transfer assignments shall be granted where space is available at the appropriate grade level, according to the following guidelines:

1. That first priority in enrollment shall be reserved to all students who reside in the attendance area and wish to attend their attendance-area school, when such attendance can be accommodated within racial balance requirements.

2. A student may transfer from one school to another where space is available and the transfer would contribute to the racial balance in the receiving school.
- (d) Transportation shall be provided pursuant to the Board-adopted transportation policy.
 - (e) A random selection or lottery system shall be used when transfer applications for a given school exceed the number of spaces available or exceed the racial balance requirements of that school.
 - (f) The Board policy on student attendance areas and the guidelines found in the school selection information (*Directions*) shall be used to determine the school of attendance following a change of the parents' (or student's, if student is 18 or older) legal residence within the city.
 - (g) The superintendent of Schools may, for good and sufficient reason, make an administrative transfer or student assignment at any time.
 - (h) Once a transfer assignment has been made by the superintendent's office, it remains in effect unless a change of residence occurs or the assignment is revoked. Students granted transfer assignments beginning with the 1976-1977 school year shall have the option of continuing in the feeder pattern of the schools they are attending within racial balance requirements. Once on transfer, a request to return to the school in the attendance area of residence must be processed under the procedures included in this student transfer policy.
 - (i) Principals and other appropriate school personnel shall provide all necessary and pertinent information required by a parent who is interested in taking advantage of the student transfer policy. No parent is to be discouraged from applying for a transfer.

(4) APPEALS

- (a) An administrative committee, appointed by the superintendent, shall consider cases in which a parent, or student age 18 or older, might wish to appeal a school assignment under unusual health or safety considerations or for humanitarian reasons. Appeal requests may be granted if the district has violated its own procedures in the student assignment process and the violation affected the student assignment.
- (b) Membership of the committee would be representative of the ethnic and racial make-up of the Milwaukee Public Schools.
- (c) All decisions by the administrative committee are to be governed by the "Statement on Education and Human Rights" adopted by the Board on September 2, 1975. Documentation of each transfer granted under these conditions shall be on file for public inspection.

(5) HUMAN RELATIONS PROGRAM

The Administration shall continue to develop and implement a human relations program for students, the objective of which shall be to aid the achievement of quality education and successful desegregation and integration.

(6) STAFFING

The Administration shall continue its efforts to achieve a staffing pattern within the district which is reflective of our community.

History: Revised and adopted 1-4-84; revised 5-29-85, 1-6-86, 2-4-91, 4-20-95
Previous Coding: Admin. Policy JC, prior to May 1995; Admin. Policy 10.03, May 1995-August 1996
Legal Ref.: W.S. 119.16(2), 119.24, 121.85
Cross Ref.: Admin. Policy 1.04 Nondiscrimination
 4.04 Student Transportation Services
 7.16 Alternative School Programs
 8.24 Students of Legal Age

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