Book	Policy Manual
Section	5000 Students
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5113 - **INTER-DISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT**

The Board of Education permits the enrollment of students from all other districts in the District's schools or programs in accordance with State laws and regulations concerning Inter-District Open Enrollment, the provisions of this policy, and the administrative guidelines established to implement this policy. This shall include open enrollment of a student who is not a native student of the District if the student's parent is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States who is stationed in Ohio and who provides the District with a copy of the parent's official written order verifying the parent's status as an active duty member of the armed forces.

The following definitions shall apply:

Active Duty Member

A member of the armed forces of the United States who is on full-time duty.

Adjacent District

A school district having territory that abuts the territory of this District.

Adjacent-District Student

A student entitled pursuant to R.C. 3313.64 or 3313.65 to attend school in an adjacent district.

Armed Forces

Armed forces means the United States army, navy, air force, space force, marine corps, and coast guard.

Home School District

The school district from which a student who is open enrolling in this District emanates.

Native Student

A student entitled pursuant to R.C. 3313.64 or 3313.65 to attend school in this District.

Other-District

A school district located in Ohio that has territory outside of the territory of this District.

Other-District Student

A student entitled pursuant to R.C. 3313.64 or 3313.65 to attend school in an other district.

Tuition Student

A student who attends school in this District based on the payment of tuition in accordance with R.C. 3317.08.

Program

Any one of the specific course offerings of this District.

Program Size

The restrictions on the number of students in a program due to circumstances unique to that specific program, the terms of a collectively-bargained, negotiated agreement, and/or financial or operating conditions of the District.

Racial Balance

"Racial" refers to minorities classified as African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American, or Native-American students. "Balance" refers to the percentage of "racial" students in a District program, classroom, or school.

Racially Isolated Building

A racially isolated building refers to a School District building in which the racial composition of the students varies significantly from the overall composition of the School District.

Maintaining Appropriate Racial Balance

Given our diverse society and the importance of preparing students for education, work, and citizenship, the Board is committed to providing students with equal educational opportunities, promoting educational diversity in the District, and providing students with the educational benefits of a diverse student body. To that end, the Board will give individual consideration to each applicant seeking enrollment under this policy, so that all factors that may contribute to student body diversity are meaningfully considered in admissions decisions. It is the intent of the Board to maintain an appropriate racial balance as required by law.

Should a concern arise regarding racial balance in one or more of the District's schools, the Superintendent shall consult with legal counsel to determine the appropriate steps that should be taken, including, but not limited to, any necessary policy revisions and other actions necessary to comply with State and Federal law. The Superintendent shall then make the appropriate recommendations to the Board. It should be noted that as of September 21, 2004 there are no racially isolated buildings within the School District.

Enrollment of a Student of a Military Family

Enrollment of a military child shall comply with the same procedures required by law for other open enrollments. No tuition may be charged for military children who enroll under the exception.

Additionally, a student enrolled under the District’s open enrollment policy exception for military children may continue to attend school in the District and receive transportation services for the remainder of the school year if the student’s parent is discharged or released from active duty. After the conclusion of that school year, the student is not eligible to attend school in the District under the exception, as long as the student does not have a parent on active duty.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines for the implementation of this policy in ways that comply with relevant State laws and guidelines and provide for the following:

A. Application procedures, including deadlines for application and for notification of students and the Superintendent of the applicable district whenever the District approves an application submitted by an other district student.

   and

B. Procedures for admitting open enrollment applicants free of any tuition obligation to the District’s schools/programs including, but not limited to:

   1. The establishment of District capacity limits by grade level, school building, and education program;

2. A requirement that all native students wishing to be enrolled in the District will be enrolled and that any other students previously enrolled in the District will receive preference over first-time applicants; and

3. Procedures to ensure that the District maintains an appropriate racial balance in its schools. Specifically, the Board reserves the right to object to the Open Enrollment of a District student to another district in order to maintain an appropriate racial balance. If the Board of a student's home school district objects to a transfer of one of its students to this District for the same reason, this Board will deny the transfer unless the tuition fee is paid for the student.

The District's Inter-District Open Enrollment procedures shall not include any requirement of academic ability, or any level of athletic, artistic, or other extracurricular skills.

The District will also not limit an applicant's admission because of the student's disability, unless the services described in the student's individualized education program ("IEP") are not available in the District's schools. Further, the District will not refuse an applicant's admission due to the child's limited English language proficiency. Finally, an applicant will not be rejected because the student has been subject to disciplinary proceedings, except that if an applicant has been suspended or expelled by the student's district for ten (10) consecutive days or more in the term for which admission is sought or in the term immediately preceding the term for which admission is sought, the District will deny admission to said applicant.

The Board will provide information about this policy, including the application procedures and deadlines, upon request, to the board of education of any other school district or to the parent of any student anywhere in Ohio.

The District will accept all credits toward graduation earned in other district schools by an other district student or a native student.

If necessary to maintain an appropriate racial balance, the District may object to the enrollment of a native student in an adjacent or other district.

Upon request of a parent, and provided the Board offers transportation to native students of the same grade level and distance from school under R.C. 3327.01, the District will provide transportation for the student within the boundaries of this District, except that the District shall only pick up and drop off a student without a disability at a regular school bus stop designated in accordance with the Board's transportation policy.

The Superintendent shall report to the DEW all information required by R.C. 3319.981.

This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Board to determine whether to adopt a resolution to continue the policy or to rescind Inter-District Open Enrollment. Additionally, the Superintendent shall annually review the level of diversity existing within the District's programs, grades and/or schools to assess whether the application of this policy has resulted in an adverse effect on racial balance. As a part of the Superintendent's review, the Superintendent will be responsible for determining whether there is a legal basis for the Board to use the "maintenance of appropriate racial balance" language of R.C. 3313.98. Should this review indicate that the racial balance in one (1) or more of the District's programs, grades and/or schools has been adversely affected, the Superintendent shall consult with legal counsel to determine what, if any, appropriate steps should be taken including, but not limited to, policy revisions or other actions necessary to comply with State and Federal law. The Board reserves the right to modify the conditions under which Inter-District Open Enrollment would continue for any particular program, classroom, or school.

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