Students Policy

Enrollment of Nonresident Students; Tuition Fees and Regulations

General Statement

The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education will consider and may permit the enrollment of nonresident students from other school districts in Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools. The enrollment of nonresident students is a privilege granted by the District and is not a legal right provided to the nonresident student and/or his/her parent or guardian. All nonresident enrollments shall be at the sole discretion of the Board of Education and may be revoked for any reason, including but not limited to, instances where (1) the nonresident student costs exceed established per pupil costs for resident students, (2) the nonresident student(s) can not be accommodated in existing classes, and/or (3) the Board of Education believes the denial or revocation of nonresident enrollment to be in the best interest of the district or its students.

Definition of Nonresident Students

A nonresident student is a student who:

1. resides outside of the school district; or

2. resides within the school district on a temporary basis; or

3. resides within the school district on a permanent basis but with pay to the person(s) with whom the student is living; or

4. resides within the school district for the sole purpose of obtaining school accommodations; or

5. is placed by the Commissioner of Children and Family Services or by other agencies in a private residential facility. However, under this circumstance, a student may attend Lyme/ Old Lyme Public Schools with tuition paid by the sending district unless special education considerations make attendance in Lyme/Old Lyme schools and programs inappropriate. Children not requiring special education who live in Lyme or Old Lyme as a result of placement by a public agency (placed in Lyme or Old Lyme by other than another Board of Education and except as provided otherwise in this paragraph) are resident students; those requiring special education may attend Lyme/Old Lyme schools (with special education cost reimbursements in accordance with statutes) unless special education considerations make attendance in Lyme/Old Lyme schools and programs inappropriate.

Nonresident Enrollment Without Tuition

Upon written request by a parent or guardian, nonresident students may be allowed by the Superintendent of Schools to attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition under one or more of the following conditions:

1. a student may attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition if a student has attended Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools from the beginning of the academic year, and the student's family moves from the school district after January 1st of the same school year;

2. a student in the twelfth grade whose family no longer resides in the district may attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition if he/she wishes to complete his/her education in district schools;

3. a student may attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition if the student resides temporarily within the district as a result of a change in family circumstances;

4. a student may attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition if the student currently attending Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools resides temporarily outside of the district because of a change in family circumstances;

5. a student may attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition when the family of the student currently residing outside of the district has firm plans to move into the school district within the current school year as evidenced by a contract to buy, build, rent or lease.

Except as otherwise stated in this policy, nonresident students who attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition shall have the same rights and responsibilities afforded to resident students. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this policy and the general rights of a nonresident student, the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education shall have the exclusive discretion to resolve the controversy.

"Open Choice" and Other Approved Diversity Programs

A student may attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without formal tuition charges if the student is participating in a program such as "Open Choice" or other State and locally approved programs designed to create social and cultural diversity. The Superintendent of Schools will make certain that all reimbursement costs due to the district for the student's education and transportation are received. Students participating in such programs will be accorded all the rights and privileges of a resident student during the period of enrollment.

Exchange Students

A student may attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools without tuition while residing within the district under the American Field Service Program or under other programs or circumstances approved by the Board of Education. Exchange students will be accorded all the rights and privileges of a resident student during the period of enrollment.

Nonresident Enrollment on a Tuition Basis: District Guidelines

The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education shall consider all requests for nonresident enrollment on a first-come, first-served basis. The Board of Education shall have complete discretion to determine the maximum number of nonresident students enrolled in each academic year. All enrollments shall be made on an annual basis. The term will be from the time of acceptance to the close of the academic year. The nonresident enrollment shall terminate at the end of each school year, and no employee or representative of the school district has the authority to agree to enrollments for more than one school year.

The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education will consider requests for the enrollment on a tuition basis of nonresident students in the district's schools in light of, but not limited to, the following criteria:

1. when class enrollments in the district will permit the addition of nonresident students;

2. when there are established and available in-house programs provided at the school which the student will attend that will meet the needs of the student, provided that additional costs do not incur to the district, and that Regional School District 18 shall not be required to add additional classes or new programs to accommodate the needs of a nonresident student;

3. when the acceptance of the student will not place a hardship on the resources or finances of the school district;

4. when equal numbers of students transfer between two or more districts for existing academic programs only, and with the expressed written approval of the Board of Education of the participating districts;

5. when the district of origin of the student agrees to pay the complete cost of the student's education in the district for the time of enrollment and where Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools has accepted such enrollment;

6. when an existing student and his/her parents request continued enrollment of the student, and whose circumstances do not allow them to enroll under the "Nonresident Attendance without Tuition" portion of this policy.

Except as otherwise stated in this policy, nonresident tuition students shall have the same rights and responsibilities afforded to resident students. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this policy and the general rights of a nonresident student, the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education shall have the exclusive discretion to resolve the controversy.

Transportation for Nonresident Tuition Students

Transportation beyond the normal transportation routes shall not be provided for nonresident students attending schools in Regional School District 18 under the provisions of this policy. Transportation shall be the responsibility of the parent/guardian of the nonresident student. In case of cooperative arrangements between Regional School District 18 and another district or districts, transportation arrangements may be made at the discretion of the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education.

Tuition Fees

Nonresident students enrolled in Regional School District 18 shall be required to pay a tuition fee to be established annually by the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education. The Board of Education shall review and approve enrollments and tuition under this policy by May 30th of each year. This tuition rate may be pro-rated at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools if the student attending on a tuition basis is not enrolled for the entire academic year. The tuition fee may be adjusted by the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education at any time and for any reason.

The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education may establish separate tuition fees for the following classifications of nonresident students: a) regular education students; b) special education students; c) students attending under Attendance Agreements (unless a multiple-year agreement to provide education facilities is entered into with another Board of Education); and d) any other classification of students for which the Board of Education has chosen to enroll students.

The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education reserves the right to revoke or modify any terms of this policy without notice. This policy shall be administered and applied in a manner consistent with applicable state and federal law.

Enrollment Regulations

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop and publish administrative regulations regarding the enrollment of tuition students with the approval of the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education. The Superintendent shall require that a "Letter of Agreement", signed by the parent(s) or guardian(s), be filed with the district business office for each nonresident enrollment. The letter of agreement shall attest to the following:

1. that the parent and/or guardian is in receipt of this policy, and acknowledges the terms and conditions of this policy;

2. that the parent and/or guardian is in receipt of all administrative regulations regarding this policy;

3. that the parent and/or guardian understands the right of the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education to revoke or rescind the enrollment of nonresident students at its discretion;

4. that the parent and/or guardian understands the right of the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education to adjust the annual tuition rate at its discretion.

Evidence of Residency

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee may require documentation of family and/or student residency, including affidavits, provided that prior to the request for evidence of residency the parent, guardian, relative or non-relative, emancipated minor, or student eighteen (18) years of age of older shall be provided with a written statement of why there is reason to believe such student may not be entitled to attend school in Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools. An affidavit may require a statement or statements with documentation that there is bona fide student residency in Lyme or Old Lyme, that the residence is intended to be permanent, that the

residence is provided without pay, and that it is not for the sole purpose of obtaining school accommodations.

Removal of Nonresident Student from District Schools

If after a careful review of affidavits and other available evidence, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee believes a student is not entitled to attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools, the parent, guardian, emancipated minor, or student eighteen (18) years of age of older shall be informed in writing that, as of a particular date, the student may no longer attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools, and the Superintendent shall notify the Board of Education where the child should attend school (if known). If after review, residency in Lyme or Old Lyme is established by evidence, the parent, guardian or emancipated minor, or student eighteen (18) years of age of older shall be so informed.

If a student is to be removed from a Lyme/Old Lyme school for residency reasons, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall inform the parent, guardian, emancipated minor, or student eighteen (18) years of age of older:

1. of hearing rights before the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education and that the student(s) may continue to attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools pending a hearing before the Board of Education if requested in writing by the parent, guardian, emancipated minor, or student eighteen (18) years of age of older;

2. that upon request a transcript of the hearing will be provided;

3. that a local Board of Education decision may be appealed to the State Board of Education and that the student(s) may continue to attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools pending a hearing before the State Board of Education if requested in writing by the parent, guardian, emancipated minor, or student eighteen (18) years of age of older; and

4. that is the appeal to the State Board of Education on behalf of student is unsuccessful, a per diem tuition will be assessed for each day a student attended Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools when not eligible to do so.

Board of Education Hearing

Upon written request, the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education shall provide a hearing within ten (10) days after receipt of such request. The Board of Education shall make a written transcript or tape recording of such hearing. The Board shall make a decision on student eligibility to attend Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools with ten (10) days after the hearing, and shall notify the parent, guardian, emancipated minor, or student eighteen (18) years of age or older of its findings. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Sections 4-177 to 4-180 inclusive of Connecticut General Statutes. The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education shall, within ten (10) days after receipt of notice of an appeal, forward the hearing record to the State Board of Education.

Rights Reserved to Board of Education

The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education reserves the right to revoke or modify any terms of this policy without notice. This policy shall be administered and applied in a manner consistent with applicable state and federal law.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes.

4-176e through 4-185 Uniform Administrative Procedure Act.

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re: school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board.

10-220 Duties of boards of education.

10-253 School privileges for students in certain placements, nonresident children and children in temporary shelters.

10-266 Reimbursement for education of pupils residing on state property.

Policy Adopted: June 5, 2019.

Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education.

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EIGHTEEN
Lyme-Old Lyme, Connecticut

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT

TO: Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education
Regional School District No. 18
49 Lyme Street
Old Lyme, CT 06371

RE: Policy #5118 - Enrollment of Nonresident Students, Tuition Fees and Regulations

I, _____(full name of parent), as the parent or legal guardian of _____(full name of student), am requesting his/her enrollment as a student in Regional School District 18, pursuant to Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education Policy #5118 entitled "Enrollment of Nonresident Students, Tuition Fees and Regulations." I have received and read Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education Policy #5118 and fully understand and acknowledge that enrollment of _____(full name of student) is pursuant to and in accordance with this policy.

I acknowledge and understand that if _____ (full name of student) is enrolled in Regional School District 18 in accordance with Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education Policy #5118, it is for the _____ school year only. I also acknowledge and understand that the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education may review this enrollment at any time. In its review, the Board of Education may find that the costs associated with the enrollment of

my son/daughter/ward have exceeded annual tuition fees and/or circumstances have resulted in additional costs to the district. The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education may exercise its discretion and increase its tuition fees at any time and for any reason for continued enrollment and/or deny enrollment in a subsequent year.

_____

Signature

_____

Date

Regulations for Policy #5118 - Enrollment of Nonresident Students

The Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education has established separate tuition fees for the following classifications of nonresident students who have been approved by the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education to attend Regional School District 18. This fee structure is applicable only when there are established and available in-house programs provided at the school which the student will attend that will meet the needs of the student, provided that additional costs do not incur to the district, and that Regional School District 18 shall not be required to add additional classes or new programs to accommodate the needs of a nonresident student or when the acceptance of the student will not place a hardship on the resources or finances of the school district. Should the fee structure not apply due to the aforementioned circumstances, the Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education reserves the right to adjust tuition fees for individual students to accommodate hardships created by the attendance of said student in Regional School District 18.

A) Tuition Student Rates

- Grades 9-12 - $19,000
- Grades 6-8 - $17,000
- Grades K-5 - $15,000
- Grades PreK - $10,000

B) Students attending under Attendance Agreements (unless a multiple-year agreement to provide education facilities is entered into with another Board of Education)

- PK-12 $30,000

C) Children of current staff members will be charged 50% of the applicable tuition.

D) Children of active military parents will be charged 80% of the applicable tuition.

E) Foreign students attending under an F-1 visa as required by SEVIS will be charged 150% of the applicable tuition.

F) Multiple students from the same family attending together will be required to pay the following amounts:

- 1st child- 100% of the applicable tuition
- 2nd child- 75% of the applicable tuition
- 3rd child- 50% of the applicable tuition
- Any additional children will be charged 50% of the applicable tuition.

Regulation Adopted: April 5, 2023

Lyme/Old Lyme Board of Education.