Open Enrollment

The School Board of Trustees recognizes that some of its patrons may want to enroll their children in a school that is located within a district other than where their primary residence is located, therefore, this policy is adopted to allow all in-District and out-of-District patrons to choose among this District’s schools under specified conditions. In making a decision on a student’s open enrollment application, the Board of Trustees shall consider the needs of the student requesting the transfer as well as the other students affected by the transfer. A student currently under suspension or expulsion in this District or another district is not eligible for Open Enrollment under this policy.

Students with disabilities are not treated differently from non-disabled students with respect to consideration for placement in the school of their choice, unless the District has made an individual determination that disability-related needs of a particular student with a disability cannot be reasonably met at the school of their choice, due to appropriate consideration of teacher and staff, resources, program availability and/or other factors.

Transportation

Parents or guardians of a student accepted under this open enrollment policy will be responsible for transporting the accepted student. If bus space is available, then students accepted under the open enrollment policy may be transported from an appropriate, established bus stop within District boundaries.

Varsity Sports

It is recommended that a student who is considering submitting an open enrollment application to this District, and who anticipates participating in a sport governed by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) review IHSAA rules prior to submitting their open enrollment application. Certain school transfers could lead to a student being ineligible to play at the varsity level for one year.

Application/Approval Process

An open enrollment application must be submitted for admission to a specific school.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a procedure for:

1. The method of determining which students are chosen when classroom space is limited;
2. Notifying parents of the action taken on the open enrollment application;
3. The factors which may cause an open enrollment application to be denied; and
4. The process for removing a student from a transfer school, including the grounds for
removal, parent notification, and the appeal process.

In situations where class space is limited, the Superintendent may give priority to certain students. Priorities may include, but are not limited to situations where a student:

1. Has a unique situation or extraordinary circumstances;
2. Has parents/legal guardians employed by the District;
3. Has a brother or sister enrolled at the requested school; or
4. Was previously enrolled at the requested school.

The Superintendent may deny an open enrollment request when such enrollment would negatively impact the efficient use of the District resources. The Superintendent may set numerical limits defining hardship for schools, grade levels, or programs to provide for appropriate and efficient use of facilities and staff.

Revocation of a Transfer

Transfer students are required to comply with all District policies. Unacceptable behaviors, lack of attendance and false or misleading information on open enrollment applications are grounds for the District to revoke an approved application. If a student’s open enrollment transfer is revoked, the parent/guardian may request an administrative review by the Superintendent or designee of the District. The Board of Trustees may review the Superintendent’s decision.

An open enrollment out-of-district student who becomes eligible for special education during the school year will be allowed to complete the school year, as an open enrollment student, however, the student’s circumstances may be re-evaluated prior to enrollment for the following year, and depending upon circumstances, such enrollment may be denied in accordance with the District’s Open Enrollment Policy and/or other factors.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

All students’ rights and responsibilities remain the same regardless of what school they attend within the District.

Preventing or Recruiting Potential Open Enrollment Students

The District or its employees will not take any action to prohibit or prevent application by a student to attend school in another school district or to attend another school within the District. In no event is the District, or an employee of the District to recruit students outside of their attendance area. Violation of this policy may involve disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Out of State Enrollment

Out of state students will be required to pay a tuition fee per Idaho Code.