

Policy Code: 4150 School Assignments

PURPOSE: To establish guidance for student assignment to specific Franklin County Schools.

A. ASSIGNMENT PROCESS

The Superintendent will recommend to the Board an assignment process for the schools in the district.

The assignment areas will be developed in accordance with state requirements and court rulings; the need to serve all school-age children who live in the school system; and the effective use of each school facility. Assignments must be made in a non-discriminatory manner.

The superintendent shall review periodically the attendance areas and submit recommendations for revisions to the board when necessary.

B. ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS

The superintendent shall assign students to particular schools based upon the established assignment areas in accordance with the federal court order. Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, the superintendent shall assign homeless students in a manner consistent with state and federal law and policy 4125, Homeless Students.

C. REQUESTS FOR REASSIGNMENT

1. Procedure for Requesting Reassignment Before Notice of Assignment

Before notice is given of assignment for the following school year, parents or guardians may request assignment to a school outside of their regular attendance area. Such a request must be submitted in writing to the office of student assignment by ~~May 31~~ **March 31**. The student assignment committee shall consider and make a determination based upon the best interest of the child, the orderly and efficient administration of the public schools, the proper administration of the school to which assignment is requested and the instruction, health and safety of the pupils there enrolled. A decision will be made and the parent notified within 10 days. If the parent is dissatisfied with the committee's response, the parent may appeal to the full FCS Board of Education to reassign the student as provided below.

Within 10 days of receiving the notice of the disapproval, the parent may request a hearing on the reassignment request. The board will hear the appeal. At the hearing the board will consider and make a determination based upon the best interest of the child, the orderly and efficient

administration of the public schools, the proper administration of the school to which reassignment is requested, and the instruction, health and safety of the pupils there enrolled. The board will promptly render a decision, and notice of the decision will be given to the applicant by mail, telephone, telefax, e-mail or any other method reasonably designed to achieve notice.

2. Procedure for Requesting Reassignment Based Upon 2018-19 Grandfathering District Majority to Minority Ruling

If a student received a “majority to minority” reassignment for the 2018-19 school year, the school district shall permit the student to continue to receive reassignment to the receiving school through the completion of the terminal grade at the receiving school (e.g., 5th, 8th, or 12th grade) as specified in the December 18, 2018 court order and Policy 4131, Student Releases/Reassignments.

D. TRANSFER OF STUDENTS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

1. Change of Residence

Students whose legal residence changes from one school assignment area to another within the school system during the same school year may request to the Board of Education to finish out that school year in the same school or attend school in the area to which they have moved. If they elect to remain in the first school in order to complete that year, they will be assigned to the school according to the area in which they live at the beginning of the next school year. Students whose legal residence has changed but who receive permission to complete the school year at their first school will be responsible for their own transportation to school.

2. Transfer of Homeless Students

Students who become homeless between academic years or during an academic year may request to remain at the school of origin for the duration of their homelessness or may request to be enrolled in any public school that other students living in the same attendance area are eligible to attend. Any decision about the transfer or reassignment of a homeless student will be consistent with legal requirements and based on the student's best interest. (See policy 4125, Homeless Students.)

3. Transfer of Students in Foster Care

Students who are assigned to foster care between academic years or during an academic year will remain in their school of origin unless remaining in the school of origin is not in the best interest of the student. The best interest of the student will be decided based on all relevant factors, including

consideration of the appropriateness of the educational setting and proximity to the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement in foster care.

E. CONDITIONS FOR REASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER

The following conditions apply in regard to any reassignments or transfers made in accordance with sections C and D of this policy.

1. The parent is responsible for transportation (except for homeless student transfers **or students in foster care based on the student's best interest**, for which the system will provide transportation in a manner consistent with legal requirements and policy 4125).
2. The transfer or reassignment is valid for no more than one school year (except for homeless student transfers for which the length of reassignment will be consistent with legal requirements and policy 4125).
3. Any transfer request that is approved based upon false or misleading information will be declared void, and the transfer will be rescinded.

F. ASSIGNMENT TO ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

Students will be assigned to any alternative programs or schools available in accordance with established administrative procedures.

Legal References: McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, [42 U.S.C. 11431](#) *et seq.*; *Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.*; *Non-Regulatory Guidance: Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care*, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (June 2016) and *Non-Regulatory Guidance on Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program*, U.S. Department of Education (July 2016), both available at <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/index.html>; ~~U.S. Department of Education approval of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Request (May 29, 2012);~~ [G.S. 15C-8](#); [115C-36](#), [-366](#), [-367](#), [-369](#); State Board of Education Policy [HRS-A-006](#)

Cross Reference: Alternative Schools (policy 3470), **Domicile or Residence Requirements (policy 4120)**, **Discretionary Admission and Tuition for Non-Domiciled Students (policy 4130)**, Student Releases/Reassignments (policy 4131), Homeless Students (policy 4125)

Adopted: 11/08/1999

Revised: 04/10/2017, 3/11/2019, **3/14/2022**

Franklin County Schools