



Board Policy

**Student Assignment to  
Neighborhood Schools  
Draft #1.1**

**4.10.xxx-P**

**I. Policy Purpose**

The purpose of the Student Assignment to Neighborhood Schools Policy is to:

- A. Establish a process for assigning students to neighborhood schools.
- B. Provide consistent guidelines for changes to school boundaries.

**II. Definitions**

- A. Neighborhood school. A school serving a designated attendance area.
- B. Supervising adult. An adult in a parental relationship as that term is defined in ORS Chapter 339.
- C. School boundary. The physical border that defines a designated attendance area for a neighborhood school.
- D. Siblings. Children with the same parent or supervising adult living together at the same address.
- E. Feeder pattern. A designated path for students to advance from one school grade grouping to another.
- F. Emancipated minor. A person who has been so declared by the courts pursuant to ORS Chapter 419B or a similar out-of-state statute.

**III. Guidelines for Student Assignment to Neighborhood School**

- A. All students in grades K-12 are assigned to a neighborhood school based on the address:
  - 1. Where the student resides with a parent or supervising adult
  - 2. Where an emancipated minor resides
- B. Students have the right to attend their neighborhood schools through the highest grade, except as provided elsewhere in this policy.
- C. Students who have chosen to attend a school other than their neighborhood school through an approved transfer retain the right to return to their neighborhood school the following school year, as provided in the Student Enrollment and Transfers Policy (4.10.051-P).
- D. Student assignment for special circumstances, including but not limited to special education, English as a second language and alternative education, supersede neighborhood school assignments.

## **IV. Student Assignment Review and Boundary Change Process**

- A. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly monitor enrollment, program demand and demographic trends to anticipate the need for school boundary changes and consider other viable options.
- B. If the Superintendent or designee determines that conditions exist to warrant a school boundary change, the Superintendent shall develop recommendations to the Board that:
  - 1. Incorporate input from families, students, staff and community members
  - 2. Address factors that contribute to optimal school boundaries, to the extent reasonable. The Board recognizes that such factors may conflict with one another, and include, but are not limited to, the following non-prioritized list:
    - a) A feeder pattern that allows as many students as possible to continue together from one school level to the next
    - b) Student body diversity
    - c) Proximity, safety and a sense of community such as minimizing transportation times and distances
    - d) Optimal use of existing facilities
    - e) Conservation of financial and natural resources such as current and potential use of school facilities, transportation and operations costs and environmental concerns
    - f) Program and enrollment stability at nearby schools
    - g) Limiting the impact of boundary changes to the smallest number of students possible
- C. The Board shall have final approval of school boundary changes.

## **V. Student Assignment Following Boundary Change**

- A. To promote continuity and stability for students and their families and except as provided in Section V.B.:
  - 1. Students living in the neighborhood approved for a boundary change may remain at their current school through the highest grade
  - 2. Younger siblings living in a neighborhood approved for a boundary change have priority through the lottery to attend the former neighborhood school if an older brother or sister currently attends and will be attending the former neighborhood school the following school year

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3. Transfer students attending a school subject to a boundary change may remain through the highest grade
- B. In cases of school boundary changes to relieve urgent and serious overcrowding or for the purpose of establishing a boundary for a new school, the Superintendent or Board may recommend an exception to Section V.A. Such exceptions must be approved by the Board.

**VI. Exceptions and Implementation**

- A. This policy does not apply to:
1. The temporary closure of any school for renovation or remodeling when students are temporarily relocated to another facility
  2. The closure or change of use of any building or other facility owned by the District not currently used for instructional purposes
  3. The closure of any school for up to one year in response to emergencies, including major facility or environmentally related problems
- B. The Superintendent shall develop administrative directives and procedures for implementing this policy as needed.

Legal References: ORS 339.133; ORS Chapter 419B; 4.10.051-P; 6.10.022-P;

History: [to be completed]