

Students

School Attendance Areas

The Board of Education shall establish attendance zones to facilitate educational programs and to use existing facilities with optimum effectiveness. The Superintendent of Schools shall recommend school attendance areas in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Safety of students;
2. Student educational needs;
3. Educational programs to be housed; (i.e. ELL, STRIVE, STEPS, etc.)
4. Optimum use of existing facilities;
5. Student residential patterns;
6. Ages of students served;
7. Racial/ethnic balance.

Assignment to attendance zones shall be subject to modification when federal law applicable to students placed in foster care or students who are homeless requires that such students be educated in a "school of origin" that differs from the assigned attendance area.

Optional Provision

Although students in an attendance area have first choice of schools in that area, the Board of Education also accepts "controlled free zoning" within the following guidelines:

1. Where space exists, students from other attendance areas may apply for membership within rated capacities of school buildings.
2. Parents of students choosing out of area attendance shall provide student transportation.
3. Students out of normal attendance areas will remain in chosen schools. **If an opening occurs, parents may request the base school at the beginning of the following school year.**

(cf. [5118.1](#) - Homeless Students)

(cf. 5118.3 - Children in Foster Care)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10 55](#) Students to attend regional school.

[10 226a](#) Students of racial minorities.

[10 226b](#) Existence of racial imbalance.

[10 226c](#) Plan to correct imbalance.

[10 226d](#) Approval of plan by state board.

Policy adopted: Monday, August 26, 2019

5117-Regulation

Students

School Attendance Areas

Among factors not generally considered as valid reasons for transfer are:

1. School of attendance of brothers, sisters, or friends.
2. Place or time of employment of parent(s) or guardian(s) or student.
3. Personal convenience of family or student.
4. A request that would undermine Board of Education redistricting policy.
5. Athletic team preference.
6. Specific school preference for personal reasons.

Adopted 2001-2002 school year / School Placement

The Board of Education reserves the right to place all new enrollees in schools that can best accommodate additional students. Every effort will be made to retain students in neighborhood schools and to maintain racial and numerical balance.