

## School Attendance Areas

### School Choice System

#### **ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS TO SCHOOLS**

Each ~~A~~ student enrolled in the District shall be required to attend the school to which the student is assigned by the District school choice system, in accordance with Board Policy, the Board-approved School Choice Plan, and related administrative procedures created by the Superintendent/designee.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The following guiding principles shall guide the District in implementation of the school choice system:

**Equity** – Equity is considered to be the overarching principle for the school choice system, to be reflected in all aspects of the development, implementation, and changes to the system. Equity considerations shall be taken into account across all other guiding principles. Other guiding principles are:

- Access
- Ease of Understanding
- Diversity
- Choice

#### **CENTRALIZED APPLICATION PROCESS**

The District shall implement a centralized application process for:

- Choice Zone options;
- Elementary school cluster choices, magnet schools, magnet programs, and optional programs;
- Middle school magnet schools, magnet programs, and optional programs;
- High school magnet schools, magnet programs, and optional programs;
- High school career theme program choices within the high school networks; and
- Student transfers.

Each A1 school as defined in 703 KAR 5:240 that is not a Districtwide magnet school shall have a defined attendance boundary.

The District shall establish separate processes for the:

1. Assignment of students to A5 and A6 Alternative Education Programs under 704 KAR 19:002; and
2. Application for and enrollment of students in early childhood education.

The District shall establish a separate process for the enrollment of nonresident students in accordance with Board policy 09.124 and KRS 158.120

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### GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, REVISIONS, AND PUBLIC ACCESS

All prior student assignment plans, procedures, guidelines, practices, or individualized arrangements for schools are, upon adoption of this policy, null and void. The Board-approved School Choice Plan, this policy, accompanying administrative procedures, and District implementation practices as set forth in the School Choice Handbook, represent the governing documents for the assignment of students to schools. The Board may review and revise the School Choice Plan attendance zones from time to time, but shall, at a minimum, review it in conjunction with the decennial United States Census.

The District shall publish all boundary maps and practices utilized in the implementation of this policy on the District website in a place readily accessible to the public. The District shall also develop and accessible and user-friendly supporting resources to assist families and the community to understand and navigate the student assignment process.

### CHOICE ZONE

The District shall establish a Choice Zone that has defined boundaries. The boundaries of the Choice Zone shall be approved by the Board and published on the District website. A parent or guardian of an elementary, middle, and high school student residing within the Choice Zone shall be provided through the centralized application process a guaranteed choice of a school closer to their home or a school farther from their home. For an elementary school student, the parent/guardian will be able to rank order school choices within the option selected.

### CHOICE ZONE SUPPORT PLAN

The District shall implement a Choice Zone Support Plan for all Choice Zone schools. The plan shall provide evidence-based student academic and non-academic supports, teacher and administrator supports. The Choice Zone Support Plan shall be sufficiently resourced to ensure effectiveness and shall be incorporated into the District budget for review and approval by the Board on an annual basis. The Board budgeted twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) for fiscal year 2021-22 to support the School Choice Zone Support Plan, and hereby expresses its policy position that future Boards should approve budgets that include in investment at the same or greater levels through at least the 2031-32 fiscal year, reflecting a ten (10) year investment commitment.

### REQUESTS FOR TRANSFER

Requests for transfer to another school within the District shall be considered in accordance with pursuant to administrative procedures developed by the Superintendent/designee. All decisions by the Superintendent/designee regarding transfer shall be final.

In addition, the District may permit students to transfer to another school as set forth in Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015.<sup>1</sup>

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### CHARTER SCHOOLS

No student may be assigned to or required to attend a charter school by the District.

### STUDENT ASSIGNMENT PLAN REVIEW AND EVALUATION PROCESS

The Office of School Choice shall review and monitor implementation of all aspects of School Choice System on an ongoing basis and make changes to administrative procedures and processes as needed to improve performance.

The District shall establish process and outcome metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of the School Choice System and its implementation. Using those metrics and other information, the District shall undertake an annual evaluation that shall include an analysis conducted by District staff, as well as an evaluation by an external entity. Results of the internal and external evaluations will be presented to the Board and be made available to the public. The annual evaluation shall include a detailed information regarding:

1. Funding the Choice Zone Support Plan;
2. Student Learning and Academic Achievement;
3. Student performance on non-academic indicators;
4. Diversity of student population in relation to District, school, and program diversity goals as measured by the Diversity Index and Categories under Administrative Procedure 09.11 AP.4;
5. Diversity Index and Categories under Administrative Procedure 09.11 AP.4; and
6. Other topics determined by the District and the external evaluator.

### SCHOOL CHOICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Superintendent/designee shall establish a School Choice Community Advisory Council (advisory council) with management and facilitation by the Office of Schools Choice. The advisory council shall assist the District in the monitoring of implementation of the School Choice System. The advisory council shall:

- a) Be comprised of individuals who have a proven commitment to racial educational equity;
- b) Include a majority of members who are not employed by the District;
- c) Include representation from several different geographic areas of the District;
- d) Include parent, student, teacher, classified staff member, administrator, and community member representation; and reflect, insofar as practicable, the racial and ethnic composition of the student population of the District.

### RACIAL EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

Implementation of School Choice Plan and the review and evaluation process for the plan shall conform to Board Policy 09.131 District Commitment to Racial Equity, which call for strategies to eliminate or alter procedures and practices that create systemic disparities in educational opportunities and outcomes. Changes to the School Choice Plan shall undergo a review using the Racial Education Analysis Protocol (REAP) required under Board policy 09.131.

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**REFERENCES:**

<sup>1</sup>P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015); 20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.

[KRS 158.120](#); [KRS 160.1592](#)

-McKinney-Vento Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.; 20 U.S.C. § 7912(a)  
34 C.F.R. 200.44

**RELATED POLICIES:**

[08.134](#); [09.131](#)

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