Regulation 501.05-R(1): School Attendance Assignment - Elementary Students Building Assignment

Status: ADOPTED

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The Dallas Center-Grimes elementary schools operate on a neighborhood concept. Neighborhood schools are determined by boundaries set by the Board. Elementary students will attend their neighborhood school, unless the school is overcrowded, the need exists to balance class sizes, transportation is required due to safe egress or distance, or if a special provision is made by the Superintendent designee. Special provisions may be made if attendance at the neighborhood school will be detrimental to the health or welfare of a student. These situations may include a health problem, a behavior problem, the need for a special program, or an unusual family situation.

In determining the assignment of elementary students to an attendance center, the highest priority will be given to placement in the neighborhood school. If at all possible, siblings will be enrolled in the same attendance center. Once students are placed in an attendance center, they should be allowed to complete their elementary schooling in that attendance center, unless the family moves to another neighborhood school area. If a student's residence changes during the year, the student will be transferred to their new school if space is available. If space is not available, the student will be placed on a callback list to the new school. A transfer may be delayed if special circumstances exist; however, the delay should not disadvantage another student awaiting assignment.

Students who are new to the district and who will require transportation due to safe egress or distance from a school will be placed as a family in an attendance center that has space to accommodate them. Families will be divided only if no other option is available. After being enrolled in an attendance center, transported students may consider that school their home school and should be allowed to complete their elementary schooling in that attendance center, unless the family moves to a non-transported area in another neighborhood. During spring kindergarten registration, parents with transported children already enrolled in an elementary school will register at the elementary school that the older children attend. An effort will be made to place the kindergarten child at the same attendance center as the older sibling.

In determining overcrowding in an attendance center the class size guidelines that are approved annually by the board will be used.

In determining the need to balance class sizes between attendance centers, staffing needs and the disparity of class sizes will be taken into consideration.

When a grade level is at capacity in an attendance center, new students not otherwise eligible for transportation will be assigned to another attendance center that has space. Transportation will be provided by the district between the neighborhood school and the assigned attendance center. These students will be placed on a callback list to their neighborhood school according to date of registration. Those with the earliest registration will be called back first. If the callback is declined, students will remain on the call back list in the same order. Students who have been forced to attend a non-neighborhood school due to full capacity will be allowed to continue at their current attendance center for that school year. These students will be assigned to their neighborhood school for the next school year if space is available. Parents electing to have their child/children remain at a non-neighborhood school may need to assume transportation beginning on the date that space becomes available for return to their neighborhood school.

Families with multiple students on callback may refuse callback and continue to receive transportation to the alternate site until all members of family are called back.

Kindergarten registration will be held in the early spring. Parents of resident students attending this registration meeting will have first priority in having their child placed at their neighborhood attendance center. If registrations exceed capacity, parents will be asked to voluntarily transfer to an attendance center that has available space. If not enough voluntary transfers can be identified; students will be placed in another attendance center beginning with those living farthest from the school. If a large number of students must be transferred, consideration will be given to transferring based on a neighborhood concept. Those students who are not registered for kindergarten during the week of registration will be placed at their neighborhood attendance center if possible. If that attendance center is full, they will be placed at an attendance center that has available space and put on a callback list according to the date of registration.

Students open enrolled into the district will be placed in the attendance center that best balances the district's class size and classrooms available. Enrolled resident students will be given priority for attendance center choice until June 15th of each school year. After an open enrolled student is assigned to an attendance center, he/she will retain

all the same rights and privileges, as it relates to attendance centers, as any resident student.

To the extent possible, all currently enrolled resident students will receive their school placement for the following year at the conclusion of the current school year. New families, moving into the district during the summer, will be assigned an attendance center by August 15. Assignments will be made by date of enrollment; earliest dates will receive first consideration. If at all possible, siblings will be enrolled in the same attendance center. If there is not room for a family at their neighborhood school, students will be assigned to another attendance center. These students will be placed on a callback list according to date of registration. Those with the earliest registration will be called back first.