

ADMISSION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes the cultural enrichment derived from welcoming foreign students into the educational program and encourages district participation in a foreign student program. The Board recognizes that the primary purpose for the admittance of a foreign student is for educational reasons only and not for the purpose of work/employment. Foreign students covered by this policy are generally in the district for a one-year academic program.

The district recognizes only those organizations designated as “Exchange Visitor Programs” by the U.S. Department of State, pursuant to federal regulations, as sponsoring organizations for the exchange of students. Any such organization must supply proof of designation prior to recognition.

In order for the district to approve a foreign student, the following regulations apply:

1. Only foreign students 15 years and older will be accepted.
2. The student must have demonstrated in his/her home school a level of scholastic achievement to indicate success in the high school.
3. Proficiency in the English language is required. If a foreign student is placed in the district and the district determines that the student is deficient in English language proficiency, the sponsoring program will do one of the following, according to the decision of the district:
 - a. terminate the student’s placement;
 - b. provide, and pay for, tutorial help until the student reaches proficiency, as determined by the district.
4. The student’s records and credentials, including English translation, indicating all academic institutions attended, courses studied, and grades received in secondary school, must be available to school officials by June 15 for admission the following September. Exchange students will not be admitted once the school year has begun.
5. All international student applications will be reviewed by the appropriate guidance counselor and the Building Principal. After the review, a recommendation for the approval or rejection of the application will be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools. All recommendations will be submitted to the Board of Education for approval.
6. The student must be in good health and an immunization record must be provided.
7. Verification of health and accident insurance with a minimum limit of \$15,000 will be accepted.
8. The student must enroll for a full course of study, on a full-time basis.
9. The student must conform to established standards of acceptable behavior and to the rules and regulations of the high school.

10. The district reserves the right to deny admission to any student not meeting all the requirements set forth in this policy.

Any letter of acceptance furnished to a foreign student program will state that tuition will be waived, unless the Board determines otherwise.

Registration; Graduation

1. The foreign student must present himself/herself for registration prior to the first day of classes for the current semester.
2. At the time of registration the student will be provided a form, to be signed by him/her, the host family, and a representative of the sponsoring organization, indicating compliance with the conditions as stated in this policy.
3. The student will be granted a certificate upon completion of an approved course of study. Foreign students, if eligible to graduate, will be allowed to participate in commencement exercises, as appropriate.

Termination of Student Participation

A student's participation may be terminated at any time by school officials for failure to abide by established guidelines, including:

1. failure of two or more courses of study (without sufficient effort);
2. failure to conform to established school rules and regulations;
3. failure to conform to the regulations established by the sponsoring organization; and/or
4. excessive absences.

Revocation or Suspension of Sponsoring Organization

Should the guarantee or documentation provided by a sponsoring organization prove invalid, further acceptance of foreign students from that organization will be dependent upon proof of compliance with district policy. The district reserves the right to deny access to students from any agency found to be operating in a manner that is deemed to be inconsistent with the best interests of our students and their families.

Ref: 22 CFR Part 62 (Exchange Visitor Program) §62.25 (Secondary School Students)
8 CFR 214.2(j) (Special Requirements for Admission, Extension and Maintenance of Benefits for Exchange Aliens)
Education Law §1709(13)
Matter of Jones, 24 EDR 110 (1984)

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