

School Board of Brevard County

FY 2014-2015 Student Accommodation Plan

Policy 7120: Criteria for Balancing Membership



Policy 7120

Criteria for Balancing School Membership to Capacity

The Board recognizes the need to define criteria for the implementation of strategies to meet the Level of Service requirements established by the Board and contained in the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning and School Concurrency.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

A. Capacity

The capacity of a school shall be 100% of the permanent satisfactory factored FISH (Florida Inventory of School Houses) capacity on the date of the fall FTE count.

B. Current Students

All students attending a school at the end of the school year prior to redistricting.

C. Enclave

A portion of a school's attendance boundary that is separate from the boundary within which the school is located.

D. Fall FTE Count

The Fall Full Time Equivalent (FTE) student count is conducted each October. It is the official count of the number of students in each school for that school year.

E. Out-of-Area

A school other than the school serving the parent's residence.

F. Projected Enrollment

The official projection of the number of students in each school for the next five school years is published each December.

G. Prospective Students

All students living in the redistricted boundary area that will be "new" to the school.

School Board of Brevard County

FY 2014-2015 Student Accommodation Plan

Policy 7120: Criteria for Balancing Membership

Clarifications:

1. All incoming Kindergarten students at an elementary school, all incoming 7th grade students at a middle school or junior/senior high school and all incoming 9th grade students at a high school are prospective students.
2. All students moving into the redistricted boundary area are prospective students, regardless of the grade level.

H. Redistricted Boundary Area

That portion of a school attendance area that is assigned (redistricted) to another school attendance area.

I. School-Based Employees

School District employees working at a school are considered to be school-based employees of that school.

J. Schools of Choice

There are five Schools of Choice: Freedom 7 Elementary School; Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary School; West Melbourne Elementary School; Edgewood Jr./Sr. High School; and West Shore Jr./Sr. High School. Siblings of current students at these schools have preference.

K. Sibling

Family members of a current student residing in the same residence as the current student who begin their attendance at a school during a year in which the current student is attending the school. Siblings who do not begin their attendance at the school while the current student is attending the school do not qualify for sibling preference.

L. “Soft” Redistricting

An alternative to standard redistricting that recognizes the vested interest of students and parents in the schools they have been attending. The purpose of soft redistricting is to move prospective students scheduled to attend a school where student enrollment exceeds permanent capacity to a neighboring school with available capacity.

M. Travel Time

The average one (1) way commute time on a school bus.

School Board of Brevard County

FY 2014-2015 Student Accommodation Plan

Policy 7120: Criteria for Balancing Membership

Criteria for All Redistricting

- A. Busing - Travel time from the redistricted boundary area to the new school should not exceed forty-five (45) minutes. This criterion does not apply for students who attend a School of Choice or an Exceptional Education Program.
- B. Enclaves - Redistricting should not create isolated areas of students (enclaves). Where possible, redistricting should eliminate existing enclaves.
- C. Year-Round Schools - Students shall not be redistricted to Year-Round Schools.
- D. Socio-Economic Status - Redistricting should be accomplished with diversity as a consideration.

Specific Criteria for “Soft” Redistricting

- A. Prospective Students - Prospective students living in or moving into the redistricted boundary area shall be required to attend the "new" school.
- B. Current Students - Current students who live in the redistricted boundary area may attend the "new" school or remain in their current school until graduation.
- C. Siblings - Siblings of current students who live in the redistricted boundary area may attend the "new" school or remain in their current school until graduation of the youngest current student.
- D. Exceptions - Students may attend other schools as described in Out-of-Area, Employee Preference, and Special Schools and Programs.

Specific Criteria for “Hard” Standard Redistricting

- A. All students living in or moving into the redistricted boundary area shall be required to attend the "new" school.
- B. Exceptions - Students may attend other schools as described in Out-of-Area, Employee Preference, and Special Schools and Programs sections.

School Board of Brevard County

FY 2014-2015 Student Accommodation Plan

Policy 7120: Criteria for Balancing Membership

Criteria for Out-of-Area Approvals

- A.** Students currently approved to attend a school outside of their normal attendance boundary who continue to meet the contract requirements for out-of-area assignment must reapply for approval each year to stay in the school they now attend unless they choose to return to their home school. Refer to Policy 5120 for contract requirements.

- B.** If a school's enrollment is projected to exceed 100% of its permanent capacity for the following school year, existing out-of-area students will not be renewed as necessary to reduce the projected enrollment to 100% of the school's permanent capacity. Non-renewals of existing out-of-area students will be prioritized by grade level beginning with the lowest grade levels, for all out-of-area students in that grade level. Students of school-based employees are exempt from this provision.

- C.** No new incoming out-of-area requests will be approved for schools where student enrollment is projected to be greater than 90% of permanent capacity for the following school year. Special consideration will be given to students who are requesting to move from a school of higher capacity utilization to one of lower capacity utilization within this category.

- D.** No new outgoing out-of-area requests will be approved for schools where student enrollment is projected to be less than 75% of permanent capacity for the following school year. Special consideration will be given to students who are requesting to move from a school of higher capacity utilization to one of lower capacity utilization within this category. Schools with year-round schedules are exempt from this criterion.

- E.** If attendance boundary changes are necessary to address capacity issues at a school, existing out-of-area students at that school will not be renewed to reduce or eliminate the need to change the school's attendance boundaries. Students of school-based employees are exempt from this provision.

- F.** The Director of School Choice may "freeze" a school to new incoming and/or outgoing out-of-area requests, regardless of the projected student enrollment to permanent capacity ratio, if the Director determines that this restriction is in the best interest of the School District.

- G.** There is no sibling preference for out-of-area students.

School Board of Brevard County

FY 2014-2015 Student Accommodation Plan

Policy 7120: Criteria for Balancing Membership

H. Refer to Policy 5120 for the Out-of-Area appeal process.

Criteria for Employee Preference

- A. Children of School District employees may attend any school, with the exception of the Schools of Choice, as an out-of-area student if the child meets the entry requirements and the projected enrollment for the following school year does not exceed the school's permanent capacity. The capacity restriction does not apply to school-based employees.
- B. Only children of school-based employees working at the Schools of Choice may attend these schools if the child meets the entry requirements.

Criteria for Special Schools and Programs

- A. Enrollment at magnet schools, Schools of Choice, and District-approved Choice Programs (including CTE Choice Programs) shall be limited to 100% of the projected permanent capacity of the school for the following school year.
- B. Students enrolled in special programs (i.e., Exceptional Education, Teen Age Parent, and Alternative Learning) shall be assigned to the school closest to their home with capacity offering the special program(s).
- C. New McKay Scholarship students may be approved at the requested school(s) if:
 - 1. Student enrollment is projected to be no more than 90% of the permanent capacity of the school for the following school year; and
 - 2. The student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) can be implemented at the school; and
 - 3. The personnel allocation plan can be implemented for the student's matrix level; and
 - 4. The school has no more than 22% ESE students (excluding gifted).

Implementation Flexibility

The Board provides to the Superintendent flexibility in the implementation of this policy due to extenuating circumstances. The Superintendent shall notify the Board of any exceptions.

F.S. 163.3180, 1001.41, 1001.42

Adopted 3/25/08

Revised 4/09

Revised 6/24/10

Revised 6/14/11