

The Asheboro City Board of Education believes that in almost all cases the child should attend the school that serves his/her domicile. Exceptions to this will be made in limited circumstances within the criteria provided below and any administrative procedures established by the superintendent.

**A. ASSIGNMENT AREAS**

The superintendent shall recommend to the board school assignment areas for the schools in the district.

The assignment areas will be developed in accordance with state requirements and court rulings; the need to serve all school-age children who live in the school district; and the effective use of each school facility. Assignments will be made in a non-discriminatory manner.

The superintendent shall review periodically the attendance areas and submit recommendations for revisions to the board when necessary.

**B. ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS**

The superintendent shall assign students to particular schools based upon the established assignment areas. Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, the superintendent shall (1) assign homeless students in a manner consistent with state and federal law and policy 4125, Homeless Students; and (2) assign students in foster care to their school of origin unless contrary to their best interest, as required by federal law and as feasible.

Students who are participating in or whose parent is participating in the North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program established by G.S. Chapter 15C will be assigned on the basis of their actual address, but such address will remain confidential in accordance with law and policy 4250/5075/7316, North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program.

**C. APPLICATIONS FOR REASSIGNMENT**

The parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian may request reassignment to a school outside of their regular attendance area. Such an application must be submitted in writing to the office of the superintendent by June 1. A decision will be made and notice mailed by June 30. In instances where there are extraordinary, compelling and specific circumstances that make the June 1 deadline impossible to comply with, the superintendent may accept the application after June 1. In such cases, a decision will be made and notice mailed within 20 working days. The superintendent or designee may approve the application if space is available and one or more of the following criteria are met:

1. Employee of a Public School System

A student whose parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian is a permanent employee of the Asheboro City Schools may be reassigned.

2. Change of Domicile

A student whose parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian plan to move within 90 days of the beginning of the school year may be reassigned at the beginning of the school year to the school serving the student's new domicile. A student who changes his/her domicile during the course of the school year may be reassigned to the school previously attended for the remainder of the school year. However, the student will be assigned according to the area in which they live at the beginning of the next school year.

3. Exceptional Student Program Transfers

A student in the exceptional student program may be reassigned upon the recommendation of the IEP Team.

4. Hardship

A student may be reassigned because of undue hardship, or extraordinary, compelling, specific circumstances.

5. School Utilization

A student may be reassigned when it would provide for the more orderly and efficient administration and operation of the schools in the district.

6. Transfer of Homeless Students

Students who become homeless between academic years or during an academic year may request to remain at the school of origin for the duration of their homelessness or may request to be enrolled in any public school that other students living in the same attendance area are eligible to attend. Any decision about the transfer or reassignment of a homeless student will be consistent with legal requirements and based on the student's best interest. (See policy 4126, Homeless Students.)

7. Transfer of Students in Foster Care

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Students who are assigned to foster care between academic years or during an academic year will remain in their school of origin unless remaining in the school of origin is not in the best interest of the student. The best interest of the student will be decided based on all relevant factors, including consideration of the appropriateness of the educational setting, feasibility, and proximity to the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement in foster care.

#### **D. CONDITIONS FOR REASSIGNMENT**

The following conditions apply to any reassignment granted pursuant to this policy:

1. The parent is responsible for transportation (except for homeless student transfers, and transfers of students in foster care based on the student's best interest, for which the system will provide transportation in a manner consistent with legal requirements and policy 4126).
2. The transfer or reassignment is valid for no more than one school year (except for homeless student transfers for which the length of reassignment will be consistent with legal requirements and policy 4126 and transfers or reassignment of students in foster care, for which the length or reassignment will be consistent with legal requirements).
3. Any transfer request that is approved based upon false or misleading information will be declared void, and the transfer will be rescinded.

The superintendent may issue administrative regulations necessary for the implementation of this policy.

#### **E. ASSIGNMENT TO ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL**

Students will be assigned to the alternative school in accordance with board policy 3470/4305, Alternative Schools.

#### **F. APPEAL OF REASSIGNMENT DECISIONS**

A decision of the superintendent's designee may be appealed to the superintendent. An appeal to the superintendent must be received in writing no later than five working days following receipt of the decision of the superintendent's designee. The superintendent will review the appeal and make a written determination within 30 days of receiving the appeal.

A final decision regarding reassignment may be appealed to the board of education. An appeal to the board of education must be received in writing no later than five working days following receipt of the decision of the superintendent. The board or a panel of the board will hear the appeal. If a

panel hears the appeal, the panel's recommendation will be submitted to the full board for a final determination. The board will make a written determination within 30 days of receiving the appeal.

Legal References: McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.; Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*; *Non-Regulatory Guidance: Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care*, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (June 2016); and *Non-Regulatory Guidance on Education for Homeless Children and Youths Program*, U.S. Department of Education (July 2016), both available at <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/index.html>; *Unsafe School Choice Option Non-Regulatory Guidance*, U.S. Department of Education (May 2004), available at <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/edpicks.jhtml?src=ln>; G.S. 15C-8; 115C-36, -366, -367, -369; State Board of Education Policy SSCH-006

Cross References: Alternative Schools (policy 3470/4305), Homeless Students (policy 4126), North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program (policy 4250/5075/7316)

Adopted: April 9, 1998 to become effective July 1, 1998

Revised: April 12, 2001, November 10, 2005, March 12, 2009, June 14, 2012, April 11, 2013, July 13, 2017

Administrative Procedure: Yes