

Brevard County (Florida)

Bylaws & Policies

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 total building 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. **Educational Location Option**

The option to attend 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 (5) school years is published each December.

G. **Prospective Students**

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

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 (5) 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

A student who lives within the same household with a common parent/guardian.

L. Sibling Preference

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.

M. Travel Time

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

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 an Exceptional Education Program.
- B. Enclaves - Redistricting should not create isolated areas of students (enclaves). Where possible, redistricting should eliminate existing enclaves.
- C. Socio-Economic Status - Redistricting should be accomplished with diversity as a consideration.

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 educational location option, employee preference, educational program opportunity, and/or exceptional student education programs.

Criteria for Educational Location Option

- A. Students currently approved to attend a school outside of their normal attendance boundary who continue to meet the contract requirements must reapply each year to stay in the school they now attend unless they choose to return to their zoned school of attendance. Refer to Policy [5120](#) for contract requirements.
- B. No new incoming applications will be approved for schools where student enrollment is projected to be greater than ninety percent (90%) of total capacity for the following school year.
- C. If attendance boundary changes are necessary to address capacity issues at a school, existing educational location option students 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.

- D. The Director of School Choice may "freeze" a school to new incoming educational location option requests, regardless of the projected student enrollment to total capacity ratio, if the Director determines that this restriction is in the best interest of the School District.
- E. Sibling preference does not apply to educational location option students.
- F. Refer to Policy [5120](#) for the appeal process.

Criteria for Employee Preference

- A. Children of full-time School District employees may attend any school under the educational location option, with the exception of the Schools of Choice. Entry requirements, enrollment, and class size limitations, as well as, capacity are taken into consideration for assignment to the school. 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 via employee preference if the child meets the entry requirements.

Criteria for Educational Program Opportunity

Enrollment in an educational program opportunity shall be limited to 100% of the total capacity of the school.

Criteria for Exceptional Student Education and Special Programs

- A. 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).
- B. New McKay Scholarship students may be approved at the requested school(s) if:
 - 1. student enrollment is projected to be no more than ninety percent (90%) of the total 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 twenty-two percent (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

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