

Book Policy Manual

Section 200 Pupils

Title Foreign Exchange Students

Code 239

Status First Reading

Adopted February 14, 2006 Last Revised January 11, 2022

Purpose

In order to promote cross-cultural awareness and understanding and to provide diverse experiences to district students, the Board shall admit foreign exchange students into district schools.

Authority

The Board shall accept foreign exchange students who meet the established guidelines for admission to district schools.

The Board shall accept exchange students on a J-1 Visa who reside within the district as participants in group-sponsored exchange programs approved by the Board. Exchange students on a J-1 Visa shall not be required to pay tuition.

The Board reserves the right to limit the number of foreign exchange students admitted to the schools.

Delegation of Responsibility

The high school principal or designee shall be responsible for determining the visa status and eligibility of foreign exchange students applying for admission to district schools. The high school principal shall interpret this policy broadly to encourage the enrollment of eligible exchange students.

All potential organizations or individuals applying for admission shall forward the request to the high school principal or designee by June 1st, preceding the school year of attendance.

Guidelines

Foreign exchange students shall comply with all immunization requirements for students. Once admitted, all exchange students shall be subject to all district policies and regulations governing students.[1][2]

Admission of foreign exchange students shall be subject to the following guidelines:

- 1. Students shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age and shall be sufficiently fluent in English. English proficiency may be demonstrated by testing, an interview, or other means.
- 2. Students will be considered for admittance on a space available basis.
- 3. Students will need to commit to a minimum of one academic semester for attendance. Preference will be given to students that intend to attend for a full academic year.
- 4. Resident host families shall submit a statement accepting responsibility for the student and verifying they are serving as a volunteer host without personal profit.
- 5. Exchange students shall be encouraged to participate in student activities and athletics, provided eligibility criteria are met.

Exchange students will be enrolled in 11th grade for administrative purposes. The Board recognizes that exchange students seek to experience the full breadth of the American high school experience. Accordingly, exchange students may participate in events like Homecoming, Prom and other events of this nature.

Legal

1. Pol. 200

2. Pol. 203

22 PA Code 4.74

22 PA Code 11.11

8 U.S.C. 1101

20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq

42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq

22 CFR Part 62

Pol. 138