

Staff Report to the Board of Education

March 13, 2024



POLICY 311, STUDENT PLACEMENT

Adrian Johnson, Secretary Treasurer

SUMMARY

The Provincial Government recently passed Bill 40, School Amendment Act, 2023.

This Act, in regard to student placement:

- Allows a First Nation to designate a school for certain persons who live on the First Nation to attend;
- Provides a process for a First Nation to make such a designation; and
- Provides certainty that a person who is subject to such a designation remains entitled to enrol in any educational program at a school as otherwise set out in the School Act.

The proposed changes to policy incorporate the requirements of Bill 40.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that this policy be distributed for comments and further input in accordance with Board Policy 140.

RECOMMENDATION

That amended Board Policy 311 Student Placement be distributed for comments and further input in accordance with Board Policy 140.

ATTACHMENTS

Policies (clean copy and markup copy)

Policy 311 Student Placement

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.22 (VERNON)

BOARD POLICY NO: 311

Student Placement	
Approval Date:	January 26, 1993; June 21, 2023
Amendment Date(s):	May 15, 2019
Reference(s):	<i>School Act 74.1, Bill 40, First Nations Schools of Choice</i>

The Board believes that, to the extent that school accommodation, staffing and planning arrangements will allow, parents/guardians to have the option of enrolling their children in the District school of their choice, subject to space and availability.

Okanagan Indian Band can designate an elementary and secondary school for Okanagan Indian Band students who live on-reserve, self-governing First Nations land or treaty land. If a parent/guardians wishes for an Okanagan Indian Band nominal roll student to be enrolled at another school or program, the Board recognizes Okanagan Indian Band students have school enrolment rights under the Local Education Agreement.

The following prioritized criteria will be utilized for determining student placement:

1. Okanagan Indian Band nominal roll students at the Band's designated school of choice (elementary and secondary);
2. Transfers for medical purposes or other confidential reasons, subject to the approval of the Superintendent or Director of Instruction - Inclusion.
3. A catchment area child who, in the previous school year attended the school at which the educational program is made available; A catchment area child;
4. A non-catchment area child;
5. A non-school district child.

For registration and placement in District Programs of Choice, siblings of current in-district students are accepted into the programs first through the registration process. All remaining program placements are determined through lottery for students that have applied for registration for a District Program of Choice.

It is intended that permission for transfer be sought and received prior to school opening in September and voluntary transfer during the course of the school year will occur only under special circumstances, and only with the prior approval of the Principals of the schools involved.

The Board hereby delegates to the Superintendent, or their designate, the decisions whether space and facilities are available in individual schools and educational programs in the School district for purposes the *School Act*.

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BOARD POLICY NO: 311

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The Board believes that, to the extent that school accommodation, staffing and planning arrangements will allow, parents/guardians should to have the option of enrolling their children in the District school of their choice, subject to space and availability. ~~The Board recognizes Okanagan Indian Band nominal roll students fall under the Local Education Agreement.~~

Okanagan Indian Band can designate an elementary and secondary school for Okanagan Indian Band students who live on-reserve, self-governing First Nations land or treaty land. If a parent/guardians -or-guardian wishes for an Okanagan Indian Band nominal roll student to be enrolled at another school or program, the Board recognizes Okanagan Indian Band students have school enrolment rights under the Local Education Agreement.

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1. Okanagan Indian Band nominal roll students at the Band's designated school of choice (elementary and secondary);
2. Transfers for medical purposes or other confidential reasons, subject to the approval of the Superintendent or Director of Instruction - Inclusion.
- ~~4.~~ A catchment area child who, in the previous school year attended the school at which the educational program is made available;
- ~~2.3.~~ A catchment area child;
- ~~3.4.~~ A non-catchment area child;
- ~~4.5.~~ A non-school district child.

For registration and placement in District Programs of Choice, siblings of current in-district students are accepted into the programs first through the registration process. All remaining program placements are determined through lottery for students that have applied for registration for a District Program of Choice.

~~It is understood that transfers felt desirable for medical purposes or other related confidential reasons may be granted without reference to the foregoing criteria, subject to the approval of the Principals of the schools involved.~~

It is intended that permission for transfer be sought and received prior to school opening in September and voluntary transfer during the course of the school year will occur only under special circumstances, and only with the prior approval of the Principals of the schools involved.

The Board hereby delegates to the Superintendent, or their designate, the decisions whether space and facilities are available in individual schools and educational programs in the School district for purposes the *School Act*.