

SUBJECT: ENTITLEMENT TO ATTEND - - AGE AND RESIDENCY

The District shall provide a public education to all persons residing in the district between the ages of five and twenty-one who have not received a high school diploma.

A veteran of any age who has not yet received his/her high school diploma and who has been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable is eligible to attend school.

A non-veteran under twenty-one years of age who has received a high school diploma shall be permitted to attend school or BOCES upon payment of tuition.

Upon registration, all new students shall be required to present:

1. Proof of age: Examples of acceptable forms of documentation include, but are not limited to, a birth certificate, baptismal record, or passport (including a foreign passport).
2. Record of immunizations from a licensed physician.
3. Proof of district residency: Examples of acceptable forms of documentation include, but are not limited to, deed, mortgage statement or lease, and three (3) letters to the address, such as a utility bill, telephone bill and bank statement. Admittance to the district is contingent upon proof of residency.

A student transferring from South Huntington to another school district will be given a transfer card to take to the new school. Parents are advised to notify the school office of contemplated transfers to allow school personnel sufficient time to prepare the necessary records.

Attendance Areas

The District will enforce attendance boundaries based on the legal residence of parents, legal guardians or other appropriate individuals.

School Attendance Areas

Boundaries for the elementary schools are readjusted by the Board of Education when necessary. In setting boundaries for school attendance within the South Huntington Union Free School District, the following criteria must be considered, without regard to the order listed:

- a) Provide a suitable number of students for each building.
- b) Establish school boundaries which will maintain themselves as long as possible.
- c) Provide for future growth and ultimate stabilization.
- d) Examine alternative grade arrangements in the elementary schools.
- e) Consider the potential of possible future racial imbalance.

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- f) Maintain elementary children from the same family in the same school insofar as feasible.
- g) Consider transportation problems.

Each elementary principal is responsible for enforcing the attendance boundaries adopted by the Board. No exceptions for a given school year may be made without the Superintendent's or the Board's approval. The administration has allowed students to finish a school year in the school of September enrollment. All such exceptions are to be routed through the Superintendent's office. Copies of descriptions of elementary boundaries are filed in the Pupil Services office and the offices of building principals.

All 6th grade students attend the Silas Wood Sixth-Grade Center and 7th and 8th grade students attend Henry L. Stimson Middle School; all 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students attend Walt Whitman High School.

Ages of Attendance/Compulsory Attendance Age

According to Education Law, a student who becomes six years of age on or before the first of December in any school year shall be required to attend full-time instruction from the first day that the District schools are in session in September of such school year, and a student who becomes six years of age after the first of December in any school year shall be required to attend full-time instruction from the first day of session in the following September. Except as otherwise provided in Education Law Section 3205(3), a student shall be required to remain in attendance until the last day of session in the school year in which the student becomes sixteen years of age. In all city school districts, union free and central school districts having a population of more than 4,500 inhabitants and employing a Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education may choose to require students who are not employed to attend full-time instruction until end of the school year in which the student turns seventeen (17) years of age. The residence of children dwelling within the District boundaries shall be established in a manner consistent within the District boundaries shall be established in a manner consistent with State Law and the Regulations of the Commissioner.

Determination of Student Residency

The Board of Education or its designee shall determine whether a child is entitled to attend a District school. Any adverse residency decision by a school official, other than the Board or its designee, shall include written notice to the parent/guardian of the procedures for obtaining review of the decision within the District.

The Board of Education directs the Superintendent to develop regulations to implement this policy.

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A child's residence is usually determined by the residence of the custodial parent. However, a non-custodial parent who resides in the District may enroll his/her child in a District school if he/she shares the day-to-day responsibilities for the child and the custodial parent designates the child's residence with the non-custodial parent.

Foster ChildrenTuition Paid

The cost of instruction of students over 5 and under 21 years of age, who have not received a high school diploma, who are placed in family homes at board by a social services district or State department or agency, shall be borne by the school district in which the student resided at the time the social services district, State department or agency assumed responsibility for said students' support and maintenance.

Tuition Fees

The Board of Education shall consider as legal residents children over 5 and under 21 years of age who have not received a high school diploma, who are cared for in free family homes at board, when such family homes are located within the District and are the actual and only residence of such children. Such children are entitled to attend, without payment of tuition, the public schools maintained in the District.

Homeless Children

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to identify homeless children within the District, encourage their enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their education which may exist in district practices. The Board will provide that homeless children attending the District's schools access to the same free and appropriate public education, including preschool education, as other children.

A homeless child is a child who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence or who has a primary nighttime location in a public or private shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, or a place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. This definition also includes a child who shares the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reason; lives in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; lives in a car, park, public space or abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station or similar setting; has been abandoned in a hospital or is awaiting foster care placement; or is a migratory child who qualifies as homeless.

A homeless child has the right to attend school in either the district of origin (i.e., where he/she

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resided before becoming homeless), the district of current location or a district participating in a regional placement plan.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop procedures necessary to expedite the homeless child's access to the designated school. Such procedures shall include:

1. Admission: Upon designation, the District shall immediately admit the homeless child to the school, even if the child is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, medical records, proof of residency or other documentation and even if there is a dispute with the child's parents regarding school selection or enrollment. Homeless children will have the same opportunity as other children to enroll in and succeed in the district's schools. They will not be placed in separate schools or programs based on their status as homeless.
2. Transportation: The District shall provide transportation for homeless students currently residing within the District as required by applicable law.
3. School Records: For homeless students attending school out of the District, the District shall, within five days of receipt of a request for records, forward a complete copy of the homeless child's records including proof of age, academic records, evaluation, immunization records and guardianship paper, if applicable.

The Superintendent shall also designate a liaison for homeless children and ensure that this person is aware of his or her responsibilities under the law. The liaison's responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, ensuring that:

1. Parents of homeless children are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to them, including transportation;
2. Enrollment disputes involving homeless children are promptly mediated and resolved;
3. School personnel in coordination with shelters and social service agencies and other appropriate entities identify homeless children, including homeless preschoolers;
4. Homeless children receive educational services, including Head Start and preschool services to which they are eligible, as well as referrals to health care and other appropriate services.

If the homeless child is residing outside the District, the District of attendance and the District of current domicile both shall be responsible for payment for transportation services. If the two Districts cannot agree on an apportionment of transportation costs, each district shall be responsible for half the cost, as provided by applicable law.

In accordance with Commissioner's regulations, the District shall collect and transmit to the Commissioner information necessary to assess the educational needs of homeless children within the State.

POLICY

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Students

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Emancipated Minors

A determination of whether a student is to be designated as an emancipated minor in the South Huntington Union Free School District will be based on evidence that the student is no longer under custody, control and support of his or her parents. To establish emancipation, a minor may submit documentation of his or her means of support, proof of residency and an explanation of the circumstances surrounding the student's emancipation, including a description of the student's relationship with his or her parents.

These statements are renewable each school year. If at any time the above information is changed without prompt notification or proven to be false, the parent/guardian and/or student may be subject to legal action.

Children of Activated Reserve Military Personnel

Students temporarily residing outside the boundaries of the District, due to relocation necessitated by the call to active military duty of the student's parent or person in parental relationship, will be allowed to attend the public school that they attended prior to the relocation. However, the District is not required to provide transportation between a temporary residence located outside the District and the school the child attends.

Requests to Remain in South Huntington Schools

The Board of Education will, in certain cases, permit students whose parents/guardians have moved outside the attendance boundaries of the South Huntington School District to conclude the school year in their current building of attendance. This decision will be based largely upon the circumstances and timing of the request relative to the school year, with greater consideration given to moves that occur after the semester break. The South Huntington School District expects parents/guardians who wish to submit one of these requests to have their child remain in their school for the remainder of the academic year, to make all reasonable and practical efforts to inform the Superintendent and Board of Education of the move prior to leaving the District. The Board of Education reserves the right to require and ultimately consider additional documentation for all requests to remain in the District that are submitted after the parent/guardian/student has moved outside the South Huntington School District boundaries.

Education Law Sections 2045, 3202, 3205 & 3212(4)	Executive Law §§532-b; 532-e
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR)	Social Services Law §§17; 62; 397
Sections 100.2(x) and (y) 42 USC §§11431, et. Seq.	8 NYCRR §§100.2; 175.6
School Enrollment Guidelines on the McKinney-Vento Act, 67 Fed. Reg. 10,697-10,701 (March 8, 2002)	Education Law §903; 904; 3202; 3208
Education Law §§207; 305; 3202; 3205; 3209	Public Health Law §2164
	Student Registration Guidance, NYSED, 8/26/2010

Adopted: 6/16/1999; Amended: 5/18/2004; Amended: 12/15/2010; Amended: 8/17/2016