

April 9, 2018

Valtena G. Brown, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Operating Officer  
School Operations

**SUBJECT: INITIAL READING: PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF BOARD  
POLICY, 5120, STUDENT SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT AND  
ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY  
SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC  
BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING  
ENVIRONMENT**

In order to initiate rulemaking procedures in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, attendance zone recommendations must be submitted to the School Board. Accordingly, copies of the documents, *Attendance Zone Recommendations and Related Administrative Actions 2018-2019*, and *Attendance Zones Previously Approved by the Board 2017-2018*, will be forwarded to the School Board members under separate cover and will be on file in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and the Citizen Information Center, Room 102, at the School Board Administration Building, 1450 Northeast Second Avenue, Miami, Florida. Additionally, these documents are available online at:

[http://pdfs.dadeschools.net/schoolboard/040517/Attendance\\_Zone\\_Recommendations  
and\\_Related\\_Administrative\\_Actions\\_2018-2019.pdf](http://pdfs.dadeschools.net/schoolboard/040517/Attendance_Zone_Recommendations_and_Related_Administrative_Actions_2018-2019.pdf)

[http://pdfs.dadeschools.net/schoolboard/040517/Attendance\\_Zones\\_Previously\\_Approved  
by\\_the\\_Board\\_2017-2018.pdf](http://pdfs.dadeschools.net/schoolboard/040517/Attendance_Zones_Previously_Approved_by_the_Board_2017-2018.pdf)

In developing these recommendations, consideration was given to those factors affecting attendance zone changes: compliance with Class Size Reduction Mandate; impact on exceptional student education programs; use of available student stations within contiguous areas; degree and extent of transportation; programmatic impact due to lack of student housing; reduction of the number of schools students must attend; integrity of feeder systems; assignment of students from new residential developments to specific schools prior to completion of developments; construction of new schools; promotion and maintenance of diverse school enrollments; and prevention, reduction or elimination of racial isolation to the extent practicable.

Attached is the Notice of Intended Action and the policy proposed for amendment. Changes from the current policy are indicated by underscoring words to be added and ~~striking through~~ words to be deleted.

Authorization of the Board is requested for the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to amend Board Policy 5120, *Student School Assignment and Attendance Boundary Committee*.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to amend Board Policy 5120, *Student School Assignment and Attendance Boundary Committee*.

VGB:slc

## NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, announced on April 25, 2018, its intention to amend Board Policy 5120, *Student School Assignment and Attendance Boundary Committee*, at its meeting of June 20, 2018.

**PURPOSE AND EFFECT:** To establish attendance zones for elementary and secondary schools for the 2018-2019 school year which are in the best interest of students and better utilize existing student stations.

**SUMMARY:** Board approval of this policy would support previously approved attendance boundary zones and subsequently establishes all Board-approved attendance zones as a Board policy.

**SPECIFIC LEGAL AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH RULEMAKING IS AUTHORIZED:** 1001.41(1) (2); 1001.42(10); F.S.

**LAW IMPLEMENTED, INTERPRETED, OR MADE SPECIFIC:** 1000.05; 1001.42(10); 1001.49(3); 1003.06, F.S.

IF REQUESTED, A HEARING WILL BE HELD DURING THE BOARD MEETING of June 20, 2018, which begins at 1:00 p.m., in the School Board Administration Building, School Board Auditorium, 1450 N. E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132. Persons requesting such a hearing or who wish to provide information regarding the statement of estimated regulatory costs, or to provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), F.S., must do so in writing by May 21, 2018, to the Superintendent of Schools, Room 912, at the same address.

ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL THE DECISION made by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, with respect to this action will need to ensure the preparation of a verbatim record of the proceedings including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes)

A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AMENDED POLICY is available at cost to the public for inspection and copying in the Citizen Information Center, Room 102, 1450 Northeast Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

# policy

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## STUDENT SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

The assignment of students to District schools shall be consistent with the best interests of students and the best use of District resources.

### **Attendance Areas ~~2017-2018~~ 2018-2019**

The Superintendent is responsible for proposing attendance areas for District schools. The Superintendent will be assisted in this task by School Operations, the Office of School Facilities, and the Attendance Boundary Committee (ABC).

The Offices of School Facilities and School Operations will provide the Attendance Boundary Committee and the community with proposed attendance boundary changes for schools in ~~2017-2018~~ 2018-2019. Community input on these boundary changes will be solicited at regional community meetings. Individuals who wish to present alternate recommendations will be assisted by region staff. Any alternate proposals must be reviewed through the same process as the Superintendent's proposals. Community and ABC meetings will be held to present the attendance boundaries established for ~~2017-2018~~ 2018-2019. The Superintendent is authorized to develop administrative procedures to implement this process.

The ABC will take the following factors into consideration when reviewing proposed attendance areas regarding school boundaries: compliance with class size reduction mandate, impact on special education programs, use of available student stations within contiguous areas, degree and extent of transportation, programmatic impact due to lack of student housing, reduction of the number of schools students must attend, integrity of feeder systems, assignment of students from new residential developments to specific schools prior to completion of developments, construction of new schools, promotion and maintenance of diverse school enrollments, and prevention, reduction or elimination of racial isolation to the extent practicable.

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Staff in School Operations, Office of School Facilities, Information Technology Services, Department of Transportation, Research Services, Office of Diversity Compliance, and Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration and Community Engagement, will assist the Superintendent in providing data, analyze proposed attendance areas, and prepare recommendations for submission to the School Board.

The Board-approved school attendance zones for the current school year are contained in the following documents:

- A. Attendance Zones Previously Approved by the Board - ~~2016-2017~~ 2017-2018;
- B. Attendance Zone Recommendations and Related Administrative Actions – ~~2017-2018~~ 2018-2019.

Copies of these documents are incorporated by reference in this policy and are on file in the Office of Board Recording Secretary and in the Citizen Information Center.

No assignment to schools or attendance schedules shall discriminate against students on the basis of gender, race, religion, disability, national origin, sex, color, ethnic or national origin, marital status, genetic information, age, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identification, social and family background, linguistic preference, medical reason, pregnancy, childbirth, medical condition to pregnancy, handicap, handicap against a student or employee, and any other legally prohibited basis.

The parent of siblings who are assigned to the same grade level and school may request that the school place the siblings in the same classroom or in separate classrooms. This request must be made no later than five (5) days before the first day of school each school year or five (5) days after the first day of attendance of the students if the students are enrolled in school after the school year commences. The school is not required to meet the request if there is factual evidence indicating a specific placement is better for the student than that requested by the parent.

The Superintendent may assign a student to a school other than that designated by the attendance area when such exception is justified by circumstances and is in the best interest of the student.

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Whenever school boundaries are revised, every effort shall be made to continue a student in the elementary school to which s/he was initially assigned.

Wherever possible and advisable in the interests of students in non-magnet schools and programs, siblings shall be assigned to the same school. Assignment of siblings of students to magnet schools and programs is governed by Policy 2370.

The Superintendent shall assign incoming transfer students to schools, grades, and classes that provide each student the greatest likelihood of realizing their fullest educational potential.

The principal shall assign students in his/her school to appropriate grades, classes, or groups. This action shall be based on consideration of the needs of the student as well as the administration of the school.

## **Request for Student Transfers**

A student may be permitted to attend a school other than the school serving the parents' residential area as stipulated in Policy 5131.

## **Nonresident Students**

Students who are not residents of Miami-Dade County may attend District schools as stipulated in Policy 5131.

F.S. 1000.05, 1001.41, 1001.49, 1002.20, 1002.31, 1003.02, 1003.06, 1003.21

Revised 6/15/11  
Revised 7/18/12  
Revised 4/17/13  
Revised 6/18/14  
Revised 6/17/15  
Revised 6/22/16