

Eugene School District 4J

Code: **JECC**

Adopted: 7/02/73

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1/19/11; 1/23/13; 12/04/13;
6/04/14; 9/06/17

Orig. Code(s): 5020

School Choice

School Choice Requests

Parents may request that a student be permitted to attend a school outside the attendance area wherein the student's parents reside. Such requests will be honored unless the superintendent or designee determines that the school has reached its enrollment capacity. In determining enrollment capacity, administrators will consider the projected enrollment at the school, the number of available classrooms, the staff/student ratio, and caps on enrollment.

Lottery and Enrollment Priorities

An annual lottery will be used to determine the order in which district resident students' requests are granted for available openings at each school and the remaining students are placed on waiting lists. To be considered for this lottery, applications for school choice must be submitted by the deadline established by the superintendent or designee.

Students applying for school choice after the lottery deadline will be placed on waiting lists in the order the applications are received within each priority area.

Students will be given priority for school choice transfers according to the criteria below.

1. First priority will be given to students who are currently enrolled in a school or program but whose parents have moved to the attendance area of another District 4J school.
2. Second priority will be given to students who request transfer to a school that is currently attended and will be attended during the coming school year by another member of the requesting student's immediate household;
3. Third priority will be given to all other students who will be selected for placement on the waiting list by lottery, with the following exception;
 - a. The Board may establish attendance area or other priorities at individual schools to manage student enrollment.
 - b. Priority will be given to students who qualify for free or reduced meals, and are applying to elementary schools that are below the district average for free or reduced meals. This priority will take place on an alternating basis. "Alternating basis" shall mean priority will take place with alternating selections between the two separate lists of free and reduced qualified students

and all other students, by first selecting one name from one list and then one name from the other, beginning with the top of the lists.

4. Fourth priority will be given to nonresident students who are currently enrolled in the district under the interdistrict open enrollment provisions of ORS 339.133 Section 9.
5. The parents of twin students who want both of their children to participate in the lottery have two options:
 - a. Parents may submit two separate applications. The two twins would be placed on the waiting list in the order they are selected. If only one twin is accepted the other twin may be considered for placement in the school the following year; or
 - b. Parents may submit one joint application. Both names would be placed in the same position on the waiting list. If one twin is accepted, then both twins are accepted.

Approved Transfers

Parents will be responsible for transportation to and from school unless space is available on a district bus traveling to that school.

Once approved, a transfer will ordinarily remain in effect until the student completes the highest grade in the school, the student's parent requests that school choice be rescinded, or school choice is revoked from a neighborhood school.

When a student is promoted to a new level (from level K–5 to level 6–8 or from level 6–8 to level 9–12), the student will enroll in the school in the attendance area in which his or her parents reside unless a school choice request is submitted and approved. Students attending K–8 or K–12 alternative schools will automatically be enrolled in the next level school. If the student rescinds enrollment in the alternative school, a school choice request must be submitted and approved to remain in a neighborhood school outside their attendance area.

Revocation

School choice may be revoked by the superintendent or designee if:

1. The information on the request form is falsified; or
2. The student has irregular attendance or chronic tardiness; or
3. The superintendent decides that there is reasonable evidence that the school cannot ensure the safety and welfare of students.

Athletics Eligibility

Students who participate in school choice at the high school level will be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent. The procedures are intended to prohibit recruiting of athletes without unjustly penalizing students. The procedures in no

way are to be interpreted as condoning the recruitment of any athlete from one high school to another since recruitment is a clear violation of District 4J policy and intent.

The superintendent will develop procedures for the implementation of this policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 329.485](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-021-0045](#)

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, 20 U.S.C. § 7912.