

INTERDISTRICT ENROLLMENT

Also known as

Open Enrollment

What is Interdistrict Open Enrollment

- ▣ Each board of education must adopt a policy on the Admission of Interdistrict Transfer Students (could be done yearly).

- ▣ Three types permitted:
 - No Admission (our current policy)
 - Admission of students from adjacent districts
 - Admission of students from other districts in Ohio

- ▣ Interdistrict Open Enrollment is a policy which allows students from other school districts to enroll at Fairfield City Schools.

Why would we consider changing our enrollment policy?

- ▣ Revenue sources are very limited for schools.
- ▣ We must constantly search for ways to generate revenue so that we are not continually asking our community for more money.
- ▣ The state of Ohio reimburses each district approximately \$6,000 (\$5,704) for each student who enrolls from outside the district.
- ▣ Changing our current policy to allow this would generate a revenue stream that would assist the financial position of the district – this is the **ONLY** reason we are looking at this.

What will it cost the district?

- ▣ The district will not expand any existing program because of open enrollment.
- ▣ The district will not create any new programs because of open enrollment.
- ▣ Fairfield will maintain current program levels so that additional costs are not incurred.
- ▣ There is no interest in hiring additional staff to support open enrollment.

Airplane Analogy



Will class sizes go up?

- ▣ The district will establish class size limits at each grade level.
- ▣ We will not exceed these established limits in order to accept open enrolment students.
- ▣ Elementary placement (grades K-6) is very easy to determine.
- ▣ Due to the variation of scheduling at grades 7-12, we will need to work closely with the building administration and guidance counselors to determine if availability exists.
- ▣ We will not inflate our class sizes beyond the established limits.

Does everyone get in?

- ▣ An application process will be established and timelines will be determined. We will address applications on a first come, first serve basis (hand delivered).
- ▣ Recommendation for priority
 - Fairfield students will not be displaced
 - Children of employees
 - Students who are members of the same family unit currently participating in open enrollment
 - All new applications

Will my child be “bumped” out of a class by an outside student?

- ▣ No
- ▣ Resident students will have first priority to all classes before open enrollment students.
- ▣ This will determine availability for district and school programs.
- ▣ This information is imperative in order to make a decision on acceptance of open enrollment students.

How does this impact eligibility for Sports?

- ▣ Any student entering the district as a ninth grader through open enrollment is eligible to participate in sports.
- ▣ Any student entering the district after ninth grade will not be eligible to participate in sports for one year without changing residency.
- ▣ There are exceptions to this ineligibility rule contained in the OHSAA Bylaws.

Will kids with discipline issues be accepted?

- ▣ Approval of students will be at the sole discretion of the superintendent in accordance with the policy that is adopted by the BOE.
- ▣ A student's previous discipline record will be a part of the decision for acceptance.
 - A student who has been suspended for 10 days or expelled from a previous district will not be accepted.

Is the district required to provide transportation?

- ▣ No
- ▣ Transportation will not be provided to students participating in open enrollment.

Facts about Open Enrollment:

- ▣ 78% of all school districts in Ohio offer some form of Open Enrollment.
- ▣ Fairfield currently loses \$535,870.95 to open enrollment (Approximately 94 students)
- ▣ We can define our process and determine our impact.
- ▣ Districts have mixed results with open enrollment. If it is not controlled it will create problems. If it is controlled it can provide great support to a district.

Recommendations

- ▣ Test the waters to determine if this is something that we may benefit from as a district.
- ▣ Create a policy and regulations as to how we would implement this in Fairfield City Schools. Bring the policy back for Board review at the March 15th meeting.
- ▣ Make the appropriate changes as necessary and present for approval at a meeting in April.

Recommendations Continued

- ▣ Establish in the policy a mandatory review or evaluation of the program.
- ▣ Share with the board as to how this change has impacted Fairfield (negatively/positively).
- ▣ This information will assist in guiding the Board and the Administration as to how to improve the policy or to discontinue.

Questions