

4.1.2.1—Policy for Acceptance and Rejection of School Choice Nonresident Students

If a nonresident student seeks to attend school in Van Buren School District, the student's parent shall submit an application to the Van Buren School District Administration Office on the Nonresident Student Transfer Form available in the district office, postmarked no earlier than January 1 and no later than May 1 of the year in which the student seeks to begin the fall semester. The Van Buren School District will respond in writing no later than July 1 to notify the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) of whether the application has been accepted or denied.

A student's application may be denied by the Van Buren School District for any of the following reasons, as established by the Van Buren School District's Board of Directors (see attached Board Resolution form):

- Lack of capacity in a program, class, grade level, or school building, defined as 90% or more of the maximum authorized student population in a program, class, grade level, or school building; or
- A conflict between the provisions of a district's desegregation plan or court order and the provisions of the Public School Choice Act of 2015 (Act 560 of 2015); or

A student's application may not be denied based on the student applicant's athletic or extracurricular abilities, academic achievement, English proficiency level, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, or disability. An application may not be denied on the basis of previous disciplinary proceedings, except that an expulsion from another district may be considered.

A present or future sibling of a student who continues enrollment in this District may enroll in the District by submitting a Standard School Choice application. Applications of siblings of presently enrolled choice students are subject to the provisions of this policy including the capacity standards applicable to the year in which the sibling's application is considered by the District. A sibling who enrolls in the District through Standard School Choice is eligible to remain in the District until completing his/her secondary education. Consideration will be allowed to any applicant who has a sibling or stepsibling who resides in the same household and is already enrolled in the Van Buren School District by choice.

The Van Buren School District is not required to accept any application that would cause it to add teachers, staff, or classrooms, or in any way exceed the requirements and standards established by law.

A student may transfer by choice to one nonresident school per year under the Public School Choice Act of 2015. A student who has transferred to our School District may return to his or her resident district at any time, but may only return to our School District by re-application and re-acceptance through the School Choice transfer process, or as otherwise allowed by law. No student is allowed more than one school choice transfer per school year.

Reference: Act 560 of 2015 (to be codified).

Approved by Board of Education 05/14/13
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