

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS**

**Background**

The Division shall establish attendance areas for transportation purposes and for effective use of school facilities.

The Division encourages students to attend their local school if they require system transportation. However, the Division also supports the right of parents to access a program of choice.

The Division believes responsibility for busing students to and from the local school within specific attendance boundaries rests with the Division.

The Division further believes it is desirable to maintain attendance area boundaries in order to ensure the program viability of existing schools in their respective communities.

**Procedures**

1. Attendance areas shall be established for all Division schools.
2. Students and/or their guardians shall provide the school with the legal land description or address of their residence.
3. Where a guardian wishes to have a child attend a school other than their local school and outside the attendance area in which they reside, acceptance at that school, by the Principal, shall be based on available space, program and resources. Transportation may be available or allowed based on Policy 18.
4. When a student has been accepted by the Principal into a school of choice, the student must be allowed to continue to the highest grade offered at the school.
5. Placement for tuition paying students shall take place on an annual basis. Program suitability and available space will be considered.
6. As per AP 214, with Superintendent or designate approval students may be directed to attend a school, other than a student's designated school, where the educational needs of that student cannot be met in the designated school and the prospective and receiving school has appropriate and available accommodation. Transportation will be provided in accordance with Policy 18 – Student Transportation Services.
7. Direction and transportation to attend an out-of-area school shall continue from year to year provided that the conditions under which the direction was granted continue to exist.

Reference: Section 13, 30, 45, 51 School Act  
Admin Procedure 214  
Policy 18