

CONTROLLED OPEN ENROLLMENT

5.23*+

- I. The School District shall develop a *Controlled Open Enrollment Plan* that will be approved by the School Board and considered part of this policy. This plan will enable the District to consider student assignment based on parental preference when requested by the parent as defined by Florida Statutes. The plan shall be in effect beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.
- II. The plan shall include but not be limited to the following:
 - A. Eligibility requirements;
 - B. Application process;
 - C. Time period for accepting applications;
 - D. Capacity determination for each District school;
 - E. Identification of schools that have not reached capacity;
 - F. Class size standards;
 - G. Lottery and preference procedures used to determine student assignment if transfer requests exceed available space;
 - H. Provision for a parent to request placement of siblings within the same school;
 - I. Appeals process for hardship cases;
 - J. Address the availability of transportation; and
 - K. Method and timeline for notifying a parent of his/her child's placement for the next school year.
- III. The plan and process for implementing the plan must
 - A. Adhere to federal desegregation requirements;
 - B. Maintain socioeconomic, demographic, and racial balance;
 - C. Allow a student to remain at the chosen school until he/she completes the highest grade level at the school; and
 - D. Maintain existing academic eligibility criteria for public school choice programs.

CHAPTER 5.00 – STUDENTS

- IV. Students residing in the District, including charter school students, shall not be displaced by a student from another district who is seeking enrollment through the open enrollment provisions, nor shall a student residing within a school's attendance boundaries (their districted school) be displaced by a student residing outside that attendance boundary.
- V. Preferential treatment shall be provided to
 - A. Dependent children of active duty military personnel whose move resulted from military orders;
 - B. Children who have been relocated due to foster care placement in a different school zone;
 - C. Children who move due to a court-ordered change in custody as a result of separation or divorce;
 - D. Children who move due to the serious illness or death of a custodial parent;
 - E. Students residing in the District; and
 - F. Students in other situations as determined by the District and outlined in the *Controlled Open Enrollment Plan* which merit a placement preference.
- VI. The *Controlled Open Enrollment Plan* shall be available on the District website.
- VII. The process for participating in controlled open enrollment shall be posted on the District website with a list of schools that have not reached capacity, the application for participation, and the deadline for submitting the request to participate in controlled open enrollment.
- VIII. The District shall report the number of students participating in public school choice by type as required by the Department of Education.
- IX. The *Controlled Open Enrollment Plan* and the process for implementing the plan shall be reviewed annually by the Superintendent or designee. If the plan is materially revised or if substantive changes are necessary, the Superintendent shall present the plan and recommended changes to the School Board for consideration.
- X. A charter school is responsible for the development, implementation and annual publishing of a Controlled Open Enrollment Plan. Charter schools' Controlled Open Enrollment Plan shall be consistent with the enrollment preferences permitted under charter school statute F.S. 1002.33(10), consistent with the charter contract between Sarasota County School Board and the Charter School Governing Board.

CHAPTER 5.00 – STUDENTS

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41, 1001.42, F.S.

LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED: 1000.21, 1001.41, 1001.42, 1001.43, 1001.51,
1002.20, 1002.31, 1002.38, 1013.35, F.S.

HISTORY: **ADOPTED: 02/07/17**
REVISION DATE(S):
FORMERLY: NEW

NOTES:
Refer to: **Controlled Open Enrollment Plan Procedures**