



**Section Four: Students**

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**405R – STUDENT PLACEMENT  
(REGULATIONS)**

**1. Placement**

A student may enrol in an educational program in Central Okanagan Public Schools as outlined by the School Act, Section 74.1 (Enrolment in an Educational Program) and 74.2 (First Nation Schools of Choice), including these Regulations and its Policy, unless they have been directed to another school for any reason as determined by the Superintendent of Schools or designate.

In accordance with Bill 40 Legislation – First Nation Schools of Choice, the Board of Education will ensure that a First Nation (Westbank First Nation and Okanagan Indian Band) can designate an elementary, middle, and secondary school for First Nation students who live on-reserve, self-governing First Nation lands or treaty lands. If a Westbank First Nation or Okanagan Indian Band parent/caregiver wishes to have their student enrolled at a different program or school other than the Band's designated school(s) of choice, the following Regulations apply.

Once a student has been registered in a school, they will be counted as a student of that school.

**2. Enrolment Priorities**

Students will be enrolled in schools based on the following priorities:

1. students who are registered members of Westbank First Nation or Okanagan Indian Band will assume first priority at the Band's designated School of Choice\* (elementary, middle and secondary school);
2. catchment or French Immersion catchment area students who, in the previous year, attended the school;
3. catchment or French Immersion catchment area students who, in the previous year, were ‘placed’ by the district in a different school;
4. siblings of catchment or French Immersion catchment area students;
5. new catchment or French Immersion catchment area students;
6. siblings of non-catchment or non-French Immersion catchment area students currently enrolled in the school;
7. non-catchment area or non-French Immersion catchment area students who request to attend the school which is other than their catchment area school;
8. non-district area students;
9. international students.



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The enrolment priorities are applied on a grade by grade basis, in accordance with class size and composition requirements and the capacity of the school facility, and are not intended to cause the school to change its grade configuration. Each school is expected to maintain a cohort of students at each grade level offered at the school.

\*Designation of the Schools of Choice will be confirmed by the Westbank First Nation and Okanagan Indian Band by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.

### 3. Capping

In situations where a grade, class, program or school has reached capacity as set by the Board of Education, capping will be used to relocate students to another school as follows:

- 3.1 Decisions related to capping of a school will be made by the Board of Education considering the advice of the Superintendent of Schools/CEO, and after consultation with the school community.
- 3.2 Decisions related to capping of a grade will be made by the appropriate family of schools Assistant Superintendent, in consultation with the parent(s)/guardian(s)/student(s), the two Principals involved, those affected in the school community, and the Director of Operations or designate if necessary.
- 3.3 Decisions related to reassigning a student to a school other than their catchment area school will be made by the appropriate family of schools Assistant Superintendent, in consultation with the parent(s)/guardian(s)/student, the two Principals involved and the Director of Operations or designate if necessary.
- 3.4 The Assistant Superintendent will provide to the Principals a form letter to communicate to parent(s)/guardian(s) the relocation of the student to another school and explaining the procedure.
- 3.5 The home catchment area Principal will place students on a chronological waiting list and will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s)/student when space becomes available.
- 3.6 When notified that space is available, parent(s)/guardian(s) will have the option of returning the student to the catchment area school, either immediately or at the beginning of the new school year, or have the student remain at the school to which they were relocated through capping. If the latter is chosen, the parent(s)/guardian(s)/student will be responsible for transportation.



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### 4. Non-Catchment Area Student Registrations

- 4.1 Each year, the Board will establish a formal registration period during which time a parent/guardian (or a student who is living independently) may seek to be enrolled at a school or program outside their catchment area in the following school year. Applications for enrolment will be considered in accordance with the Enrolment Priorities set out in Section 2 above, provided there is space in the school. Applications received after the formal registration period will be considered in September following the procedures identified in 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 of these Regulations.
- 4.2 Applications for students from outside the school's catchment area will be placed on a chronological waiting list, based on the date and time the registration is received. After the students from within the catchment area have been placed into classes, non-catchment area students may be accepted into the school from the established Registration Priority waiting list.
- 4.3 The receiving Principal will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the acceptance/rejection of the registration and of the student's position on the waiting list by the end of the first week in September.
- 4.4 Once a student is accepted into a school outside of their catchment area, siblings of this student will be accepted by established registration priorities and according to space being available.
- 4.5 Applications for transfers of non-catchment area students who are currently enrolled in the Central Okanagan Public Schools will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking into account the considerations set out in Section 5.1 of these Regulations. Applications for transfers will not be used to circumvent the Enrolment Priorities for non-catchment area student registration in this Section.

### 5. Reassignment Registrations

- 5.1 A reassignment of a student may occur if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the student and the school, after consultation with the receiving Principal and the parent(s)/guardian(s)/student.



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- 5.2 The receiving Principal should notify the parent(s)/guardian(s)/student of the decision, at the earliest possible date.

### 6. Transportation

Transportation to attend a school other than the catchment area school shall be the sole responsibility of the parents/guardians, as in Board Policy 470 - Transportation Services Management unless the student has been directed to attend another school because of capping, or for any other reason as determined by the Superintendent or designate.

### 7. Appeals

A student placement decision made in accordance with this Policy and Regulations may be appealed to the Board under Board Policy 460 – Appeals and Regulations 460.2R – Appeals Related to Student Placement.

Date Agreed: April 23, 1980

Date Amended: February 24, 1982; March 7, 1984; April 24, 1985;  
September 28, 1988; February 14, 1990; September 8, 1993; June 7, 2000

Date Reviewed/Amended: November 13, 2002

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May 8, 2013; January 27, 2016; February 22, 2017; June 26, 2019  
September 2, 2020; January 27, 2021; September 15, 2021; February 28, 2024

Date Reviewed: February 12, 2014

Related Documents: Policy 405, Policy 460, Regulations 460.2R, Forms F405.1, F460