

## SECONDARY (Grades 6-12) EXCEPTION TO ATTENDANCE PETITION

School boundaries are established with regard to student population within each school, and students are expected to enroll at the school assigned to their residential area. However, the school district recognizes that circumstances occasionally warrant an exception to this policy. Parents/guardians may request enrollment of their child(ren) at a school outside their assigned attendance area by completing the information requested below and submitting the petition to the principal at the school requested. Once the building principal has approved the petition, the school will remain the student's home school until the student's residence changes or school boundaries are changed.\* When petitions are received by January 31st, families will receive a decision by February 15th. When petitions are received after January 31st, families will receive a decision after August 1st. Petitions will be processed in the order in which they are received. The following guidelines are considered in the enrollment decision:

- 1) Parents/guardians reside within the Fargo School District.
- 2) Space is available within the grade level requested.
  - Average class size in the secondary core classes is not above 27 as defined in the Fargo Public Schools' Long Range Facility Plan.
    - For petitions received after January 31st, approval may result in limited availability of elective courses for the family/student for the current and/or upcoming school year.
- 3) After consultation with the district's Special Education Assistant Director, it has been determined that the required specially designed instruction and, if required, related services, excluding transportation, can be provided within the caseload of existing staff.
- 4) Parents/guardians assume responsibility for reliable transportation.
  - If a student has special education transportation via a 504 Plan or Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the district will no longer provide special education transportation in the case of an approved parent petition unless the IEP team has determined that the student would not access a free and appropriate education in their homebuilding.
- 5) Parents/guardians/students understand High School Activities eligibility rules.
  - The eligibility rules are found at: <https://d2q0tptsfejku7.cloudfront.net/uploads/files/SafeguardEligibility.pdf>
- 6) The decision of the building principal may be appealed to the Associate Superintendent to assure the process defined has been followed.
- 7) \*When school boundaries are changed, all existing petitions become null and void. Parents/guardians must then reapply to the desired school's principal. Petition approvals will not be automatic.

NOTE: A student may complete the semester in progress at the time of the move without a petition. If the student wishes to remain the following semester, a petition must be submitted.

A. School Requested \_\_\_\_\_ School of Residence \_\_\_\_\_

B. Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Requested \_\_\_\_\_

C. Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

D. Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E. Effective date of desired placement: \_\_\_\_\_

F. Does the student receive special education service: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Reason for preference \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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For Building Administrator: (rationale for approval/denial of petition)

- Is the parent/guardian a resident within the Fargo School District: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
- Is the average class size in the grade level's secondary core classes below 27: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
- After consulting with the Special Education Assistant Director can the specially designed instruction and related services be provided within the caseload of existing staff: Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ N/A\_\_\_

If yes, to the three questions above, the petition is approved, if not, the petition is denied. Approved\_\_\_ Denied\_\_\_

Principal Requesting School Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Principal Requesting School will send a copy to the Principal Resident School)