

# Youngstown Community School

## Bylaws & Policies

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### **5111 - ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS**

The Board of Education establishes the following residency policy for determining eligibility to attend the schools of this District.

The Board shall provide tuition-free education for the benefit of children at least five (5) but under twenty-two (22) years of age whose parents reside in Mahoning County, who are in grades Kindergarten through seventh grade and such others as may be eligible pursuant to 3313.64 or 3313.65 ORC and the policies of the Board, including disabled preschool children who are at least three (3) years of age but not of compulsory school age and who are not currently enrolled in kindergarten. YCS will not limit admission to students on the basis of intellectual ability, measure of achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability, except as outlined herein.

Youngstown Community School does not discriminate in the admission of students. It is an equal opportunity educational institution which does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, disability or national origin. Upon admission of students identified with a disability, the community school will comply with all federal and state laws regarding the education of students with disabilities. At times this may necessitate placing a student in a special education program outside YCS.

That a child who does not meet the minimum age requirement, but who will be age 5 or 6, respectively, by January 1st in the school year for which admission is requested may be admitted if the following requirements are met:

- A. A parent or guardian, an educator employed by the community school, a preschool educator who knows the child, or a pediatrician or child school psychologist that knows the child has referred the child for early admittance in accordance with the community school's stated policy/procedures
  
- B. Upon referral, the community school evaluated the child for early admittance in accordance with the community school's stated policy/procedures
  
- C. After the child has been evaluated, the community school governing authority made the decision on whether or not to admit the child.

In addition, the Board shall provide tuition-free education for the benefit of a child whose grandparent(s) resides in the District and who is the subject of a:

- A. power of attorney designating the grandparent as the attorney-in-fact;  
or

- B. caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the grandparent that provides the grandparent with authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child, including the ability to enroll the child in school, consent in all school related matters, and discuss with the District the child's educational progress.

In accordance with State law, the grandparent shall be considered the "parent" of the child who is the subject of the power of attorney ([Form 5111 F7](#)) or caretaker authorization affidavit ([Form 5111 F8](#)). The child may attend the schools of this District ([Form 5111 F9](#)) unless the power of attorney or caretaker authorization form was created for the sole purpose of enrolling the child in the District so that the child may participate in the academic or interscholastic programs of this District or another reason exists to exclude the child under State law. Additionally, the child may attend the schools of the District until the power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit terminates upon the occurrence of one (1) of the following events:

- A. the child ceases to reside with the grandparent(s);
- B. the document is terminated by court order; or
- C. either the child who is the subject of the document or the grandparent dies.

Additionally, the power of attorney terminates if it is revoked in writing by the person who created it and that person gives written notice of the revocation to the grandparent and the juvenile court with which the power of attorney was filed. Further, the caretaker authorization affidavit terminates if the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child acts to negate, reverse, or otherwise disapprove of an action or decision of the grandparent(s) who signed the affidavit with respect to the child, and the grandparent either voluntarily returns the child to the physical custody of the parent, guardian or custodian or fails to file a complaint to seek custody within fourteen (14) days after delivery of the written notice of negation, revocation or other disapproval. It is the responsibility of the grandparent(s) to notify the District within one (1) week of the termination of the power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit.

The Board reserves the right to verify each student's residency and other conditions of eligibility for tuition-free education as well as the validity of the claim of any student to an education in the District. In addition, if a student has recently been discharged or released from the custody of the Department of Youth Services (DYS) and is seeking admittance or re-admittance into the District, such students will not be admitted until the records required to be released by DYS to the Superintendent have been received (see [AG 5111](#) for listing of required records). Within twenty-four (24) hours of admission into the District, the Superintendent shall request a copy of the student's school records from the school the student most recently attended.

The school will admit the number of students that does not exceed the capacity of the school's programs, classes, grade levels or facilities, except as otherwise provided under ORC 3314.06(B) or ORC 3314.061, if the number of applicants exceeds the school's capacity restrictions, students shall be admitted by lot from all those submitting applications, except preference shall be given to students attending the school the previous year and to students who reside in the district in which the school is located. Preference may also be given to siblings of students attending the school the previous year. Preference also may be given to students who are the children of full-time staff members employed by the school, provided the total number of students receiving this preference is less than 5% of the school's total enrollment. Should the maximum number of students be lacking, then admission will come from the waiting list.

## Nonresident Eligibility for Tuition-Free Education

A student shall be entitled to attend school in this District free of any tuition obligation under the following circumstances:

- A. A child whose parent has signed a contract to buy or build a house in this District and provides proper sworn statements shall be enrolled without payment of tuition for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days. The Superintendent is authorized to determine the number of days. The parent shall provide:
  1. a sworn statement explaining the situation, the location of the house being purchased or built, and stating the parent's intention to reside there upon its completion; and
  2. a statement from the builder that the house is being built for the parent and its location or a statement from a real estate broker or bank officer confirming that the parent has a contract to purchase, that the parent is waiting upon a closing date, and that the house is at the location identified in the parent's sworn statement.

Such child shall also be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics, if released by formal action of the district of current residency and the OHSAA.

- B. Children under a shared-parenting plan establishing both parents as "residential parents" when the child is residing with the parent, if one (1) parent resides in the District. If a student resides in another school district but attends school in this District (where one (1) parent resides), it is the obligation of the parents to provide transportation for that student from the home of the nonresident parent. Where a court has vested legal custody with only one (1) parent, the child is entitled to attend school tuition-free only in the district in which the custodial parent resides.
- C. A child under the age of eighteen (18) years of age who is married and resides in the District.
- D. Students between the ages of eighteen (18) and twenty-two (22) who support themselves by their own labor, live apart from their parents, reside in the District, and have not successfully completed the District's high school program or their I.E.P.

- E. Students who are considered by Federal law to be illegal aliens and/or homeless students who are required to be admitted by Federal law and in accordance with State guidelines.
- F. A child with a medical condition that may require emergency medical attention providing a parent is employed in the District and submits the proper certification required by the Board, including a medical statement from the child's physician.
- G. A child, living with a resident other than a parent and whose parent is in the armed services outside the State of Ohio, providing the child's parent submits the appropriate affidavit stating that the parent is in the armed forces outside the State of Ohio, intends to reside in the District upon return to the State, and provides the name and address of the person with whom the child will reside. The child may attend school in the District tuition-free for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months. If the parent does not intend to reside in the District, the child may attend school as a tuition student only.
- H. A student who is living with a parent under the care of a shelter program for victims of domestic violence located in the District.
- I. A nonresident child who has been or is currently being placed for adoption with a resident of this District, unless the adoption has been terminated or another district is required to educate the child.
- J. Any student who enrolls in the District under the District's open enrollment policy.

### **Optional Tuition-Free Education**

The Board may admit students tuition-free under the following circumstances:

- A. Children under the age of twenty-two (22), who are:
  - 1. in the legal custody of their parent;
  - 2. residing with a resident grandparent; and
  - 3. not in need of special education, provided the Board and the board of education of the child's district of residence enter into a written agreement specifying there is good cause for the transfer, describing the nature of the good cause, and consenting to the attendance.

The grandparent, and, if possible, the custodial parent shall sign the consent form providing the necessary authorizations. This option does not apply to children who are residing with a resident grandparent and are the subject of either a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit that provides the grandparent with authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child, as set forth in an earlier section of this policy. The Board shall admit children who are the subject of either a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit tuition-free.

- B. Foreign-exchange students participating in a bona fide foreign-exchange program or residents of foreign nations who request admission as foreign-exchange students or the student is a non-Ohio, U.S. resident admitted under an exchange program operated by a student exchange organization.
- C. A child who becomes a nonresident at the time of a parent's death may continue to attend school in the District on a nontuition basis for the remainder of the school year.

#### **Students Suspended or Expelled from Other District**

After offering an opportunity for a hearing, the Superintendent, at his/her discretion, may deny admission to a student who has been suspended or expelled from another public school within or outside the State, for the period of unexpired time of the suspension or expulsion. If the expulsion is from an out-of-state public school, the lesser of the period of such expulsion or the period of expulsion which would have been applied had the student committed the offense in this District will be imposed. When the suspension or expulsion from the other district has expired, the student is to be admitted providing all other eligibility requirements have been met. This provision also applies to a student who is the subject of power of attorney designating the child's grandparent as the attorney-in-fact or caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the child's grandparent.

#### **Mandatory Admission/Payment of Tuition**

The Board shall admit students who reside in the District but his/her parents do not reside in the District and tuition payments shall be assessed pursuant to State law if:

- A. the student is in the legal or permanent custody of a governmental agency or a person other than his/her natural or adoptive parents;
- B. the student resides in a home as defined by State law;
- C. the student requires special education;
- D. the child resides in the District and the child's parent is in a residential facility, correctional facility, or juvenile placement and the other parent, if living and not in such a facility or placement, is not known to reside in this State.

If the District admits a student to the District who is not otherwise entitled to attend or whose attendance tuition is not an obligation of another district, the Board shall collect tuition from the student's parents.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the enrollment of nonresident children which:

- A. admit such children only on the proper application of the parent or guardian; release by the board of education of residency, if required; and the approval of the Board;
- B. do not exclude any child, otherwise eligible, on the basis of such child's race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, religion, or ancestry;
- C. verify claims of residency;
- D. deny admission where the educational program maintained for the children of this District is inadequate to meet the needs of the applicant;
- E. make continued enrollment of any nonmandatory nonresident, regular-education student contingent upon maintaining good standards of citizenship and discipline.

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for their approval the admission of qualified applicants.

Tuition rates shall be determined as required by Ohio Statutes.

Tuition shall be charged monthly, in advance of attendance.

R.C. 3313.48, 3313.64, 3313.645, 3313.649, 3313.65, 3313.66, 3313.90, 3313.97

R.C. 3313.98, 3317.08, 3317.081, 3321.01(B), 3321.03, 3323.141

R.C. 3327.04, 3327.05, 3327.06, 2152.18, 5139.05, 3313.672, 3313.533

A.C. 3301-42-01

42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.

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