

RESIDENCY: GUIDELINES and ENROLLMENT

The overall goal of this article is to define our present residency guidelines.

The dictionary defines residency as “the primary or official place where one resides with a state of permanency” ...that definition is what will often constitute legal residency within the boundaries of Farmington Public Schools pursuant to Michigan law and District policy. *Simply owning property within the Farmington Public School District does not constitute residency.*

There are, however, exceptions to this definition....

- 1) A student may attend our schools when a divorce has occurred and one of the biological parents legally resides within our school boundaries. In this instance, STUDENTS MAY CHOOSE TO LIVE WITH EITHER **BIOLOGICAL PARENT**; AND THUS, ATTEND SCHOOL WITHIN THE DISTRICT. THEREFORE, STUDENTS OF DIVORCE MAY NOT ACTUALLY BE RESIDING WITHIN OUR BOUNDARIES.
- 2) Pursuant to Section 105 of the School Aid Act, a School of Choice program, which began in the 2003-04 school year, continues to allow 25 students annually, within grades K, 1, and 2 **not residing** within our boundaries but residing within Oakland County, to attend our schools. Students are selected through a lottery process, if necessary. Once enrolled within this program, students are able remain for the duration of their school career as long as they remain Oakland County residents.
- 3) Additionally, per PA 227 when a student is the child of a full-time employee of our District he/she may also legally attend the District despite the location of residence based upon space availability at the requested grade level.
- 4) Students who finish their junior year within the District, and who have subsequently moved from the District, have the option to finish their senior year with payment of tuition pursuant to District policy.
- 5) Families who will be moving their residence into the District's boundaries during the first trimester, and who have presented a purchase agreement with a closing date or a building permit with the confirmed date of occupancy may enroll their children subject to enrollment procedures and payment of tuition pursuant to District policy.
- 6) When students who were legal residents move out of the District within a trimester and the move occurs AFTER the first official count day, those students may complete the **current** trimester only. ***We are possibly revising this policy in regards to those students who have moved out of the District after first count but prior to second count.***
- 7) There are also times due to extenuating circumstances that Administrative Transfers occur; and students who are legal residents within the District may, however, be attending different home/neighborhood schools within the District than their assigned building. Obviously, this also applies to our Intra-District School of Choice students and their siblings

Other than these exceptions, in order for students to legally enroll within our District, strict enrollment procedures are adhered to.

Enrollment Done by Home School

Families enroll at the building level, or what is called the home school, assuming that they are able to clearly present the following: A valid lease (with all occupants listed), deed, current property tax statement, settlement statement or land contract **and** two (2) current utility bills, excluding water bills (unless name and address of homeowner or leaseholder is listed). A driver's license with current FPS District address must also be provided. A foster parent may enroll a student at the building level, if able to provide proof of residency and documentation of foster placement.

Enrollment Done by Secretary, School and Community Relations

- Third Party Affidavit – forms at Central Office.
- Placement of a Child in the Home of a Relative – forms at Central Office.
- Limited or Full Guardianship – forms at Central Office.
- Parent/Parents in the Armed Forces.

If a family has:

- A purchase agreement with a confirmed closing date within the first semester.
- A residential construction contract with a building permit reflecting the date of occupancy. Each of these may be subject to payment of tuition based upon District policy.
- Any other reason that the building discerns may need additional guidance (please call for direction prior to sending family to Central Office X3329).