



## POLICY

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MEETING OF: July 14, 2015

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TITLE: Governing Board Policy JFB - Open Enrollment and School Choice - Proposed Revisions Relative to School Choice Placement and Priorities

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ITEM #: 21

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Information:

Study:

Action: X

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### PURPOSE:

The proposed revisions to Policy JFB are provided so the Governing Board may consider the placement priority for children of employees and out-of-District students. Implementation of the policy will include evaluation of the impacts of the changes on the integration of TUSD schools for a period of two years. If the evaluation reveals that the changes are operating to hinder integration at TUSD schools, then they shall be removed from Policy JFB.

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### STATEMENT OF POLICY:

The District has an open-enrollment program as set forth in A.R.S. 15-816 et seq. In addition to the open-enrollment program, the District has a magnet program; together they form the District's School Choice Program. Each student shall be assigned to an attendance zone school based on the student's legal address. If a student does not apply to another school or accept pipeline placement, the student will automatically be assigned to his or her attendance zone school.

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### KEY POINTS ABOUT THE POLICY:

A student wishing to enroll at a school other than his or her attendance zone school may apply to that school by filing an application to a magnet school or magnet program or to any school through open enrollment. If capacity is available at that school, students will be placed to meet integration targets established to move each school and grade closer to the ethnic/racial composition of the District.

District resident pupils will be placed before pupils that reside outside the District. The 2013-14 Admissions Process for Oversubscribed Schools (lottery priorities) was approved by the Board in December 2013 to implement portions of the Student Assignment Section of the USP. It was approved by the Special Master and Plaintiffs in February 2014 and was incorporated into Policy JFB as approved by the Board in May 2014. In December 2014, the preferential placement for children of employees was presented as an information item to the Governing Board and staff was directed to explore the viability of such changes and draft appropriate changes for consideration by the Board.

The draft policy has been reviewed by the Special Master and Plaintiffs and implementation of the policy will include a sunset clause to meet the Special Master's order. Specifically, in school year 2016-17, based on 10th day enrollment data, the District will provide the following information to the Special Master and Plaintiffs: the number of children placed into schools through lottery Priorities 2 or 5 (including their race/ethnicity, resident/non-resident status, and school of attendance). Such information will be provided for review only, and shall not be used to change or eliminate Policy JFB prior to the agreed-upon second-year evaluation. In two years, but no later than September 30, 2017, the District will evaluate whether Priorities 2 and 5 hinder integration at TUSD schools. If the evaluation reveals that Priority 2, Priority 5, or both priorities are operating to hinder integration at TUSD schools, then one (or both) shall be removed from Policy JFB by October 31, 2017.

Eugene Butler, Julie Tolleson, Charlotte Patterson and/or Bryant Nodine will be available to respond to questions.

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REPLACES WHAT POLICY:

Policy JFB dated May 13, 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The new Policy JFB is the existing school choice policy with the following key changes:

- 1. children of employees are placed early in the lottery process, just after siblings; and,
- 2. out-of-district students are provided the same preference as TUSD students if they are already in a TUSD program or school or if they already have a sibling in the school they are applying to.

OTHER POLICIES IMPACTED:

WHO HAS REVIEWED THE POLICY:

The policy has been reviewed by TUSD Legal, School and Community Services, Magnet Programs, Desegregation, Technology Services (Mojave), Student Services and leadership. It has also been reviewed by the Special Master and Plaintiffs and modified with implementation directions to meet the Special Master's order.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS:

For all Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs), Initiator of Agenda Item provides the name of the agency responsible for recording the Agreement after approval:

For amendments to current IGAs, Initiator provides original IGA recording number:

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Legal Advisor Signature (if applicable)


BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

_____	District Budget
_____	State/Federal Funds
_____	Other
<u>Budget Cost</u>	<u>Budget Code</u>

INITIATOR(S):

Eugene Butler, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Student Services		6/24/2015
Name	Title	Date

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED/ ON FILE IN BOARD OFFICE:

ATTACHMENTS:
Click to download
 <a href="#">Draft Policy JFB Revised</a>

