

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

January 23, 2018

SUBJECT:

Changes to Policy JCA Assignment of Students to Schools

BACKGROUND:

Administration recommends the comprehensive review of school attendance zones, enrollment, population trends across the entire school district every 5 five years. The recommendation has been uniquely defined in Board Policy Draft JCA which is attached.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

Aiken County Public Schools has recently completed its first comprehensive demographic, population, and utilization study in decades. Due to this lapse in time, demographics and building utilization within the school district are significantly out of balance. Recognizing this as a concern the board recommended developing policy language to ensure that the district would have a mechanism for the continual review of enrollment and population trends.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve changes to JCA Assignment of Students to Schools on first reading.

ATTACHMENT:

Policy JCA Assignment of Students to Schools

PREPARED BY:

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ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS TO SCHOOLS

Code **JCA** Issued **4/02**

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for assignment of students to schools.

The district will assign students to attend the schools that serve their legal places of residence as determined by the board of trustees for the current school year. The district ~~or area~~ administration and/or the area advisory councils may make special exceptions.

The district will permit eligible disabled students to attend school in another attendance area if facilities within the attendance areas where they reside do not house the appropriate special education programs.

Attendance Boundary Review

The board of trustees will review regularly school attendance areas for existing schools and projected attendance areas for new schools. This comprehensive review will occur, minimally, once every five (5) years. A targeted review may be initiated prior to the completion of a new or substantially renovated school. The review shall include analysis related to school attendance zones, enrollment, population trends, demographics, and program demand. Revisions to school attendance zones may be considered for several of the following reasons to include, but not limited to:

- Construction of a new school and/or the construction of additional capacity at an existing school;
- Closing or suspending operations of an existing school;
- Relieve overcrowded schools and fill less crowded, under-enrolled schools; and
- Vertical alignment and grade configurations of schools.

Adopted 9/9/75; Revised 4/23/02

Legal references:

- A. S. C. Code, 1976, as amended:
1. Section 59-19-90 (9) - Transfer and assignment authority.
 2. Section 59-63-470 - Transfer of pupils when enrollment of such pupils threatens to disturb peace.
 3. Section 59-63-32(b)(2) – Requirements to enroll child in public school; affidavit; penalties for providing false information.