

**Policy**

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SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS

The Passaic Board of Education directs that the assignment of students to schools within the district be consistent with the best interests of students and the best use of district resources.

The board shall determine school attendance areas of the district and shall expect students within each attendance area to attend the school so designated.

The board directs the superintendent to periodically review existing attendance areas and recommend to the board such changes as may be justified by consideration of safe student transportation and travel; convenience of access to the schools; financial and administrative efficiency; the effectiveness of the instructional programming; and the ability to provide a wholesome and educationally sound balance of student populations.

The board shall publicize at the earliest date any contemplated plans for redistricting and may provide a public hearing on this subject before formal action is taken.

The board shall provide equal and bias-free access for all students to all school facilities, courses, programs, activities and services, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability or socioeconomic status.

The board shall strive to attain a minority representation within each school which approximates the district's overall minority representation. Whenever feasible, a reasonable plan consistent with the sound educational values and procedures of the district shall be developed for achieving the greatest degree of racial balance possible.

Principals shall be responsible for enforcing attendance lines in accordance with the designated school boundaries. However, the Superintendent is authorized to make exceptions for individuals when such exception is made in the best interests of the student and/or the school.

Provision for Students Assigned to School 21 During the 2024-2025 School Year Only

Pursuant to the approval of the closing of School No. 21 at the October 28, 2024 Board of Education meeting, the parents/guardians of students in grades K through 7 who attended School 21 during the 2024-2025 school year will be reassigned to a neighborhood elementary zone based on their current address. In the event a parent/guardian would like to request a change from the new school assignment for the 2025-2026 school year, they may apply for a transfer to their school of preference. Transfers for School 21 families will be accommodated in the order in which they were received and will be granted based on available space in the school requested. Any student granted a transfer must stay in the approved neighborhood zone through grade 8, unless application is made to the Passaic Gifted and

Talented Academy, Passaic Academy for Science and Engineering, the Passaic Preparatory Academy, or a hardship request is submitted to the Division of Student Advocacy. No applications for transfer will be accepted after June 30, 2025.

First Reading: November 3, 2016  
Second Reading: November 21, 2016  
Adopted: November 21, 2016  
Amended: December 16, 2024

Key Words

Attendance Areas, Equality, Bias Free

**Legal References:** N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7 Equity in school and classroom practices  
N.J.A.C. 6A:3210.5 Student assignment and credit

**Possible**

**Cross References:** \*5111 Admission  
\*5118 Nonresidents  
\*5119 Transfers  
\*5120 Assessment of individual needs  
  
\*6171.4 Special education  
\*6178 Early childhood education/preschool

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual