



Staff Analysis and Report to the Board

Board Meeting/Work Session Date: April 9, 2019

Senior Lead: Claire Hertz

Department Lead: Judy Brennan

SUBJECT: Standard Inter-district Transfer Procedures for the 2019-20 School Year

I. BACKGROUND

Oregon law provides five methods for students to enroll in schools outside of their home districts:

1. Standard inter-district transfers
2. Emergency/hardship transfers
3. Transfers into Charter schools (exempt from IDT process)
4. Contract transfers, such as into specials schools and Community-Based Organizations
5. Tuition

The law regarding Open Enrollment transfers sunset last year and that method is no longer an option for Oregon school districts.

This memo focuses on the standard inter-district transfer process for students who do not already have a valid inter-district transfer agreement. In accordance with state law, the PPS Board of Directors must determine each year

- The number of resident students who may receive new releases to enroll in other districts, and,
- The number of non-resident students who may receive consent to enroll in PPS schools.

A student approved by PPS to enroll through the standard inter-district transfer process must also receive consent from the home or requested district.

II. RELATED POLICIES/BEST PRACTICES

Policy 4.10.040-P, Inter-District Transfers

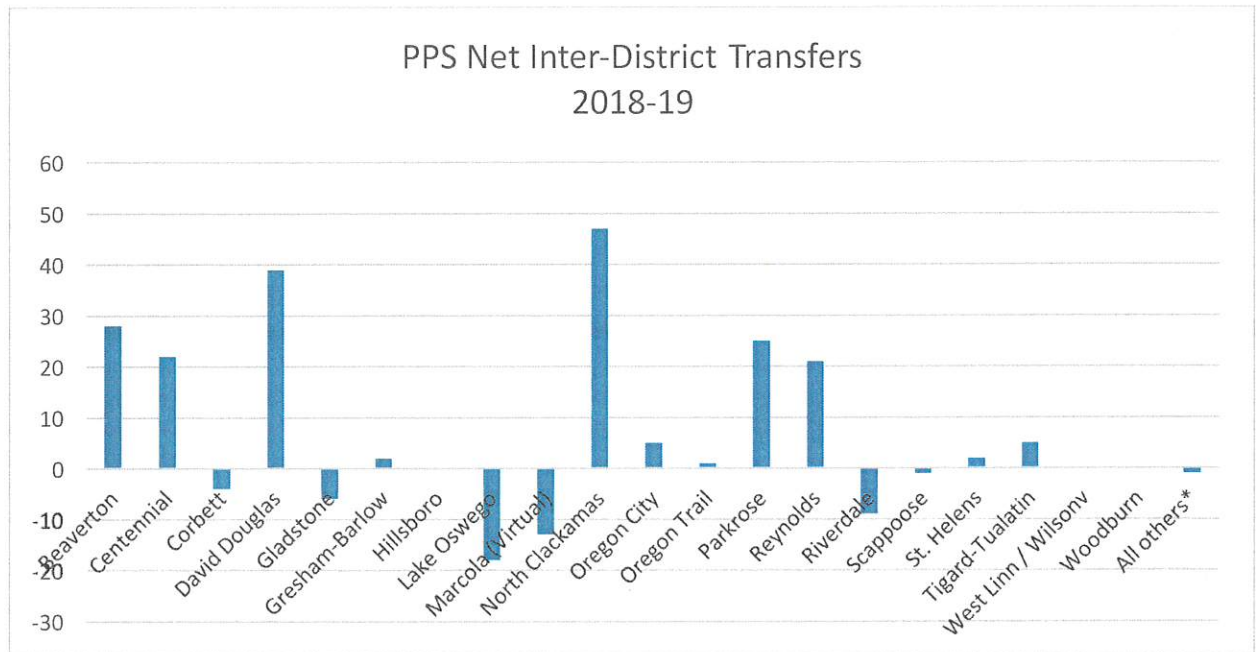
Administrative Directive 4.10.090-AD, Inter-District Transfer Procedures

III. ANALYSIS OF SITUATION

In 2014-15 a team of PPS administrators worked to align *inter*-district transfers with the *intra*-district transfer process, which is governed by Board policies 4.10.045-P and 4.10.051-P. Those policy allow resident students to remain in their current schools after their families relocate to other PPS neighborhoods, and provide preference for siblings of students already granted a transfer into a different neighborhood or focus option program. These same priorities have been applied to transfers across district lines, as well. This recommendation continues the practice of prioritizing transfers for students of families who have moved into a different district but who wish to remain in their current school, as well as the siblings of students already on transfer.

State law restricts the information districts may obtain when considering standard inter-district transfers. Factors that are routinely included in the PPS intra-district transfer system, such as native language, income eligibility or evidence of family hardship, cannot be considered in the standard inter-district transfer process. Therefore, PPS practice has limited standard inter-district transfer opportunities for students who do not meet any of the allowable priorities described above. State law does offer families the option to request transfer through an emergency/hardship process, which includes a narrowly defined set of criteria for approval.

The table below shows net transfer rates by district. The high number of transfers with districts along our eastern boundary is evidence of the many families impacted by housing markets changes. See attached chart for transfer results by district since 2013-14.



PPS routinely accepts more students through inter-district transfer than we release each year, primarily because our district population is greater than nearby districts, which leads to the number of students who move out of PPS, and, thus, qualify for priority transfer into PPS, to be greater than the number who qualify for priority transfer out of PPS.

IV. FISCAL IMPACT

Students who enroll through standard inter-district transfers qualify for the same state school funding, as resident students. During the 2017-18 School Year PPS enrolled a total of 1,331 students who were resident of other school districts, including students attending PPS charter and alternative schools.

V. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement typically consists of targeted outreach to families who have moved out of PPS. Information is posted on the Enrollment and Transfer website, and the application is available online and in five supported languages.

VI. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION/EVALUATION

- April 9: PPS Board of Education discussion
- April 15 or 30: Board of Education vote

May 13: Applications available. Currently enrolled students who moved out of PPS in the past year will receive notice of an automatic application filed on their behalf.

May 31: Early notice of approvals out of PPS for applicants to districts with June 1 deadlines

June 18 (approx.): Notify applicants of results.

June-August: Rolling decisions and notice to families and other districts

VII. BOARD OPTIONS WITH ANALYSIS

Option 1: Do not allow any new standard inter-district transfers in or out of PPS for the 2019-20 school year. Likely outcome:

- Many students will be forced to transition to new schools
- Students from the same family will be split between multiple schools
- PPS enrollment will drop by potentially several hundred students

Option 2: Allow all requests standard inter-district transfers in and out of PPS

- Non-resident students will have greater access to school transfers than students who live within PPS
- Crowded schools will become more crowded
- Resident students will be allowed transfer out of PPS even if their requests do not match PPS transfer policy

Option 3: Support the recommendation

- Unlimited transfers into/out of PPS for students who meet district priorities, so long as space is available at the current/requested schools (or, in the case of transfers out of PPS, in the requested district)
- Additional transfers into PPS accepted only where space is available

VIII. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Transfers IN to PPS schools:

a. An unlimited number of non-resident students will be allowed to transfer into PPS if they meet any of the following priorities:

- Students who had a legal change of residence out of the PPS boundary during the past year will be allowed to remain enrolled at their current PPS schools. 143 students approved through this priority for 2018-19.
- Students who have siblings already enrolled in PPS will receive consent, so long as space is available at the requested schools. 33 students were approved through this priority for 2018-19.
- Students who attended a public charter school for at least three consecutive years and are completing the highest grade this year, so long as there is space in the requested schools. This category includes non-resident students currently enrolled in Trillium Charter School. This priority not included in the 2018-19 transfer cycle.
- Students who have reached the highest grade of their current PPS schools and wish to continue at the next school level (such as elementary to middle school or middle to high school), so long as there is space in the requested schools. 43 students were approved through this priority for 2018-19.

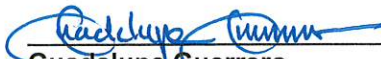
b. Additionally, up to 100 students will be admitted to PPS, so long as space is available at the requested school and grade. If there are more applicants than slots a random number will be used as a tie-breaker. 74 students were approved through this priority for 2018-19.

c. New transfers would last through the highest grade of the approved school.

2. Transfers OUT of PPS schools:

- a. An unlimited number of students will be allowed to transfer out of PPS if they meet any of the priorities described in Oregon Revised Statute 339.127:
 - Students who had a legal change of residence into the PPS boundary during the past year will be allowed to remain enrolled in their current district. 23 students were approved through this priority for 2018-19.
 - Students who have siblings already enrolled in other districts will be released. 27 students were approved through this priority for 2018-19.
 - Students who attended a public charter school in a different district for at least three consecutive years and are completing the highest grade this year. This priority not included in the 2018-19 transfer cycle.
- b. No transfer slots for resident students who do not meet the above criteria. 46 students were denied transfer to other districts in the 2018-19 transfer cycle because of not meeting one of the above criteria.
- c. In accordance with state law, transfers out of PPS are valid through 12th grade.

IX. I have reviewed this staff report and concur with the recommendation to the Board.



Guadalupe Guerrero
Superintendent
Portland Public Schools

4/4/19
Date

ATTACHMENTS

(List all supporting documentation, including resolution, etc.)

A. 6 year inter-district transfer rates by district

PPS District Priorities FY 2018-19

1. *Set a clear Vision and Strategic Plan*
 2. *Create equitable opportunities and outcomes for all students*
 3. *Build management and accountability systems and structures*
 4. *Allocate budget, funding and resources focused on improving outcomes for students*
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**APPROVED INTER-DISTRICT TRANSFER IN AND OUT OF PPS
2013-14 through 2018-19 School Years**

School District	2018-19							2017-18					2016-17						2015-16				2014-15**						
	OUT			IN			NET	OUT			IN	NET	OUT			IN	NET	OUT			IN	NET							
	Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total	Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total		Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total			Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total			Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total			Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total	Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total	
Beaverton		1	1	1	28	29	28			0	26	26		3	3	1	18	19	16		2	2	19	17		4	4	34	30
Centennial		2	2	4	20	24	22		2	2	24	22		1	1	3	17	20	19	1		1	21	20	4		4	82	78
Corbett	4		4			0	-4													1		1		-1	15		15		-15
David Douglas	40	17	57	10	86	96	39	26	21	47	115	68	24	24	48	10	80	90	42	42	12	54	65	11	24	9	33	224	191
Gladstone	5	1	6				-6	4	2	6	4	-2	4		4		2	2	-2	1		1		-1		1	1	1	0
Gresham-Barlow		4	4	3	3	6	2		3	3	8	5		2	2	1	31	32	30				10	10		2	2	32	30
Hillsboro		1	1		1	1		7	1	8	3	-5	3		3		2	2	-1	1		1	1	0		1	1	6	5
Lake Oswego	11	10	21	1	2	3	-18	27	11	38		-38	36	14	50		3	3	-47	29	7	36	4	-32	26	3	29	9	-20
Marcola (Virtual)	13		13				-13					0											0						
North Clackamas	6		6	7	46	53	47	18	7	25	76	51	8	10	18	5	66	71	53	14	2	16	60	44	28	2	30	110	80
Oregon City		1	1		6	6	5	1		1	6	5	3		3		3	3	0				1	1				10	10
Oregon Trail					1	1	1				1	1																4	4
Parkrose		4	4	8	21	29	25	11	3	14	29	15	2	6	8	4	22	26	18	5		5	14	9	5	2	7	35	28
Reynolds	6	3	9	8	22	30	21		5	5	35	30	3		3	8	39	47	44			40	40	1		1	62	61	
Riverdale		10	10		1	1	-9		11	11		-11		56	56		1	1	-55		27	27	1	-26		9	9		-9
Scappoose		2	2		1	1	-1				1	1				8	8	8				5	5				2	2	
St. Helens				1	1	2	2				3	3				2	2	2				2	2				1	1	
Tigard-Tualatin	4		4		9	9	5	3	3	6	4	-2	7	1	8		3	3	-5	5		5	9	4	5	2	7	13	6
WL/Wilsonville									4	4	1	-3		3	3		3	3	0	4		4		-4					
Woodburn												0																	
All others*	2		2		1	1	-1	3		3		-3		2	2		5	5	3			2	2	5	1	6	9		
Total	91	56	147	43	249	292	145	100	73	173	336	163	90	122	212	32	305	337	125	103	50	153	254	101	113	36	149	634	485

Notes:

Does not include transfers into PPS charter schools, CBOS or transfers through the emergency/hardship process

All data through October 15 of the listed school year

*Banks, Canby Estacada, Forest Grove, Lebanon, Molalla, Newberg, North Wasco, Rainier, Salem-Kaiser, Paisley, Silver Falls, Yamhill-Carlton

**Prior to 2015-16 standard inter-district transfers had to be renewed each year.