

RESOLUTION No. 6084

2020-21 Standard Inter-District Student Transfers

RECITALS

- A. State law requires district school boards to decide each year whether to participate in the standard inter-district transfer process, including:
1. The maximum number of resident students, if any, who will be released to schools in other district,
 2. The maximum number of non-resident students, if any, who will be accepted for enrollment in district schools,
 3. The priorities that will apply in a random lottery, in the event that there are more requests than maximum number of slots for releases or approvals, and
 4. The length of time that agreements will be in effect for non-resident students who transfer into district school.
- B. More than 1,300 PPS students this year are residents of other districts, comprising approximately 3% of district enrollment. Nearly 400 of these students will need to receive standard inter-district transfers in order to remain in PPS schools next year.
- C. For the 2020-21 school year, Superintendent Guerrero recommends the PPS Board of Directors approve the following plan for accepting students into PPS through the standard inter-district transfer process:
- An unlimited number of students will be allowed to transfer into PPS if they apply by September 1, 2020 and meet at least one of the following priorities:
 - i. 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.
 - ii. Students who have siblings already enrolled in PPS will be accepted, so long as space is available at the requested schools.
 - iii. 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 space is available at the requested schools.
 - Additionally, up to 100 students who do not qualify for any of the above priorities will be admitted to PPS, so long as space is available at the requested schools.
 - i. If there are more applicants than slots a random number will be used as a tie-breaker.
 - New transfers would last through the highest grade of the approved school.
- D. Superintendent Guerrero recommends the PPS Board of Directors approve the following plan for releasing PPS resident students to schools in other district through the standard inter-district transfer process:
- An unlimited number of students will be released out of PPS if they apply by September 1, 2020 and meet at least one of the following priorities:
 - i. Students who had a legal change of residence into the PPS boundary during the past year will be released from PPS in order to remain enrolled in their current districts.
 - ii. Students not yet enrolled in a different district will be released from PPS if they have siblings enrolled in their requested districts during the 2019-20 school year who will remain enrolled during 2020-21.
 - In accordance with state law, releases to other districts remain in effect through 12th grade.
 - No transfer slots are allocated for resident students who do not meet the above criteria.

- E. Superintendent Guerrero directs staff to develop timelines and procedures to assist families with successfully participating in the standard inter-district transfer request process.

RESOLUTION

The Board of Directors for Portland Public Schools hereby accepts the Superintendent's recommendation for accepting non-resident students into PPS schools and releasing PPS resident students to other districts.



**PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENROLLMENT & TRANSFER CENTER**

501 North Dixon Street / Portland, OR 97227
Telephone: (503) 916-3205 / Fax: (503) 916-3699

Date: March 6, 2020
To: School Board
From: Claire Hertz, Deputy Superintendent, Business and Operations
Judy Brennan, Director, Enrollment and Transfer
Subject: 2020-21 Inter-District Transfers

BACKGROUND

State law allows four methods for students to enroll in schools outside of their home districts:

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

Most residents of other districts attend PPS through the standard inter-district transfer process, which requires the PPS Board of Directors to determine annually:

- Whether resident students will be newly released to enroll in other districts, and, if so, how many, and
- Whether non-resident students will be newly accepted for enrollment in PPS schools and, if so, how many.

Staff recommends a continuation of priorities in place for the 2019-20 school year, allowing all transfers for students who move and siblings. We also recommend continuing to accept non-priority transfers where space is available, but to deny non-priority releases to other districts. Below are counts of 2019-20 Inter-district transfers:

IDT Transfer Result	Priority Type			
	Current student priority-same school	Current student priority-new school level	Sibling priority	No priority
Approved IN	163	50	21	81
Denied IN	0	0	0	94
Approved OUT	34	n/a	6	0
Denied OUT	0	0	0	85

The attached table shows the number of standard approvals in and out of PPS for 2019-20 and prior years.

RELATED POLICIES/BEST PRACTICES

Related Policy: 4.10.040-P, Inter-District Transfers

During the 2019-20 school year, PPS has collaborated with superintendents and staff from East County and North Clackamas school districts to develop a more efficient inter-district transfer process that is simpler for families. PPS is starting our process earlier this year to be better aligned with nearby districts. Several technical changes are in process, with the goal of developing a single application that can be electronically shared between districts.

The Oregon Department of Education has committed to bringing a draft rule before the State Board of Education that would refine the definition of “hardship” in inter-district transfer policies. This more flexible language, which will use the Portland Housing Bureau’s hardship language as a model, will allow students to have the option to return to their former school district if the reason they transferred was related to displacement.

ODE is currently conducting stakeholder engagement to better understand if this is an issue that needs to be addressed statewide or if its narrowly focused on Portland. And, if statewide, does the Portland Housing Bureau’s language apply or does it need to be adjusted. Juan Carlos Chavez (new Asst. Superintendent for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) brought this question to the African American/Black Student Success Plan Advisory Group meeting on February 7. They have also committed to doing tribal engagement before they bring anything before the State Board.

We also have commitments from surrounding districts to comply with such a policy.

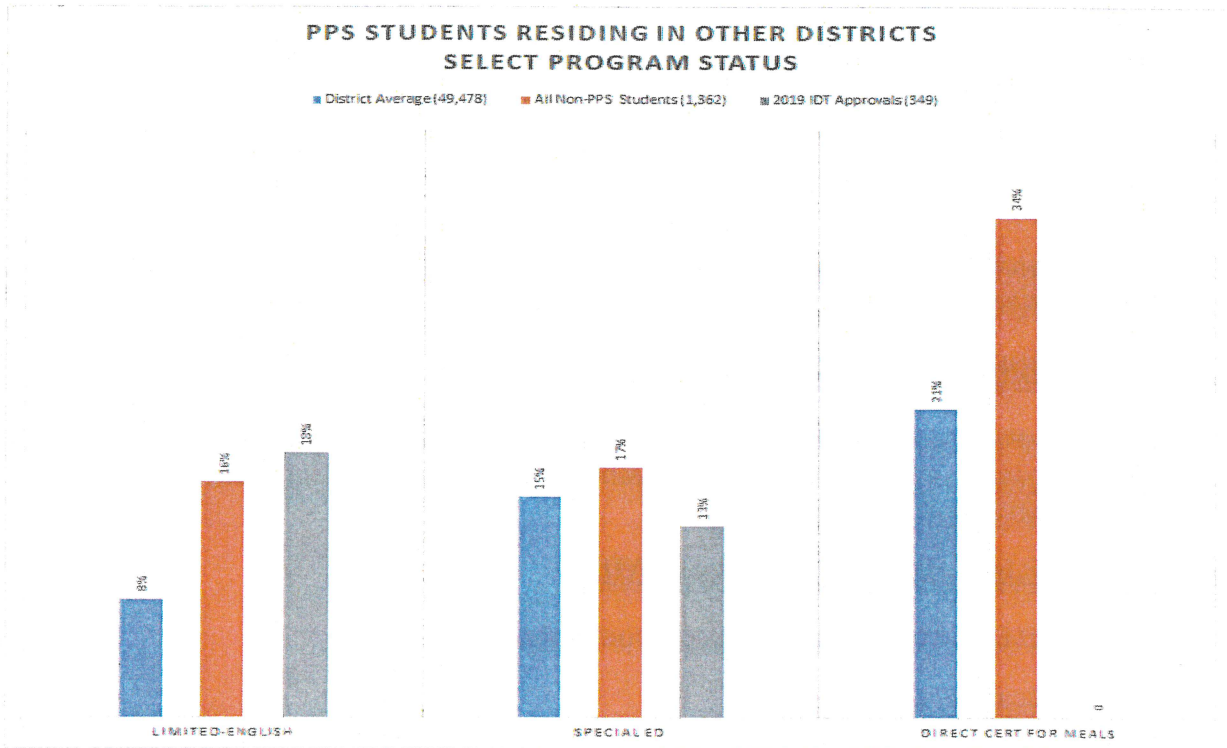
ANALYSIS OF SITUATION

State law does not allow districts to consider race, ethnicity, program qualifications, family income or other factors when making individual inter-district transfer decisions. However, we are including information about non-resident students to support more holistic understanding of these decisions.

More than 1,300 students who live in dozens of other Oregon districts attend 118 PPS neighborhood schools and specialized programs. While non-residents represent 3% of the overall district population, they comprise 4%-6% of our racially historically underserved students.

Race/Ethnicity of PPS students residing in other districts, compared to district averages								
	Asian	Black	Latino	Multiple - Other	Multiple - Asian/ White	Native American	Pacific Islander	White
District Average (49,478)	7%	9%	17%	6%	4%	1%	1%	57%
All Non-PPS Students (1,362)	9%	14%	20%	9%	3%	1%	1%	42%
2019 IDT Approvals (349)	13%	16%	19%	6%	3%	1%	2%	40%

Non-resident students are also more likely to qualify for Special Education, English as a Second Language services and free meals, when compared to district averages.



Schools with the highest number of non-resident students include charters (exempt from the standard IDT process), high schools with boundaries close to bordering districts, and specialized programs such as language immersion.

Schools/programs with the most non-PPS students	
Kelly - Russian Immersion	142
Arthur Academy	65
Madison	55
Head Start Early Childhood Ed	41
Franklin	40
Benson	39
Bridger - Spanish Immersion	37
Le Monde	34
Chapman	32
Wilson	32
Kairos PDX	31
Lane - Russian Immersion	30

Most students who attend PPS through the standard inter-district transfer process start as residents, but then move to homes in other districts. Last year, about two-thirds of students who moved out of PPS received permission from both districts to remain in our schools.

We generally do not have demographic information on new students denied transfer into PPS and those who request transfer out of PPS. State law does not allow districts to ask such questions on the application, and most of these students are not enrolled in PPS schools.

FISCAL IMPACT

Students who enroll through standard inter-district transfers qualify for the same state school funding as resident students.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

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.

TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION/EVALUATION

- March 17: PPS Board of Education vote (business agenda)
- April 20: Applications available
- May 15: Deadline for early notice applications
- May 29: Early notice results sent to parents and district
- June-August: Rolling decisions and notice to families and other districts

BOARD OPTIONS WITH ANALYSIS

The recommended inter-district transfer plan allows students who move to remain in their current PPS school, even if that school is overcrowded. Staff analysis of 32 new move-outs enrolled in overcrowded schools found that 65% are students of color, and 28% students who will be in the highest grade of their current school. Denying inter-district transfers for these students will not significantly reduce crowding and will force transition for many historically underserved students. Therefore, we recommend these students be allowed to remain at their current schools, if they receive releases from their resident districts.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends continuation of the following standard inter-district transfer priorities for School Year 2020-21:

Priority	Applicable for transfers IN to PPS	Conditions	Applicable to transfers OUT of PPS	Conditions
Students enrolled in one district who move to a	YES	• Unlimited amount	YES	• Unlimited amount

different district and wish to remain in their current school		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not subject to space availability • Effective through the highest grade of the current school 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfers good through 12th grade (state law)
Siblings of students enrolled in the requested district in 2019-20, who will remain in 2020-21	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlimited amount • Subject to space availability • Effective through the highest grade of the approved school 	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlimited amount • Transfers good through 12th grade (state law)
Students who completed their highest grade in a PPS school in 2019-20 applying for the next grade level	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlimited amount • Subject to space availability • Effective through the highest grade of the approved school 	N/A	
New students who do not qualify for above priorities	YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited to 100 • Subject to space availability • Effective through the highest grade of the approved school 	NO	

As a member of the PPS Executive Leadership Team, I have reviewed this staff report.

_____ (Initials)

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Inter-district transfer chart



**APPROVED INTER-DISTRICT TRANSFER IN AND OUT OF PPS
2016-17 through 2019-20 School Years**

School District	2019-20			2018-19						2017-18						2016-17						
	OUT	IN	NET	OUT		IN		NET	OUT		IN		NET	OUT		IN		NET				
	Stand IDT	Stand IDT		Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total	Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total		Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total	Stand IDT	Total	Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total	Open Enroll	Stand IDT	Total	
Beaverton	4	32	28		1	1	1	28	29	28			0	26	26		3	3	1	18	19	16
Centennial	0	24	24		2	2	4	20	24	22		2	2	24	22		1	1	3	17	20	19
Corbett	0	1	1	4		4			0	-4												
David Douglas	39	132	93	40	17	57	10	86	96	39	26	21	47	115	68	24	24	48	10	80	90	42
Gladstone	2	0	-2	5	1	6				-6	4	2	6	4	-2	4		4		2	2	-2
Gresham-Barlow	3	11	8		4	4	3	3	6	2		3	3	8	5		2	2	1	31	32	30
Hillsboro	2	3	1		1	1		1	1		7	1	8	3	-5	3		3		2	2	-1
Lake Oswego	5	11	6	11	10	21	1	2	3	-18	27	11	38		-38	36	14	50		3	3	-47
Marcola (Virtual)	0	0	0	13		13				-13					0							
North Clackamas	10	54	44	6		6	7	46	53	47	18	7	25	76	51	8	10	18	5	66	71	53
Oregon City	0	6	6		1	1		6	6	5	1		1	6	5	3		3		3	3	0
Oregon Trail	0	0	0					1	1	1				1	1							
Parkrose	2	23	21		4	4	8	21	29	25	11	3	14	29	15	2	6	8	4	22	26	18
Reynolds	3	27	24	6	3	9	8	22	30	21		5	5	35	30	3		3	8	39	47	44
Riverdale	9	0	-9		10	10		1	1	-9		11	11		-11		56	56		1	1	-55
Scappoose	3	8	5		2	2		1	1	-1				1	1					8	8	8
St. Helens	0	4	4				1	1	2	2				3	3					2	2	2
Tigard-Tualatin	7	6	-1	4		4		9	9	5	3	3	6	4	-2	7	1	8		3	3	-5
WL/Wilsonville	3	0	-3									4	4	1	-3		3	3		3	3	0
Woodburn	0	1	1												0							
All others*	2	7	1	2		2		1	1	-1	3		3		-3		2	2		5	5	3
Total	94	350	252	91	56	147	43	249	292	145	100	73	173	336	163	90	122	212	32	305	337	125

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 Marion, North Wasco, Rainier, Salem-Kaiser, Paisley, Silver Falls, Yamhill-Carlton
The State Legislature ended Open Enrollment after the 2018-19 school year