**ASSIGNMENT TO CLASSES** *Policy Code:* **4155**

1. **General Authority**

The principal has the authority to assign scholars to classes, subject to applicable legal requirements. The principal is encouraged to seek input from the professional staff in making these decisions. Parents may submit to the principal written requests for assignment or reassignment of their children so long as the parents provide a compelling reason for the request. The principal shall consider parental requests in assigning scholars to classes. Unless otherwise required by law or the special circumstances described below, the principal shall balance any individual request for assignment or reassignment against the welfare of other scholars and the efficient operation of the school.

1. **Special Circumstances**
2. Multiple Birth Siblings

School officials will defer to parental preference in making the initial classroom assignment of multiple birth siblings to the extent provided in this section and applicable state law. “Multiple birth siblings” means twins, triplets, quadruplets, or other siblings resulting from a multiple birth.

1. Consultative Meeting with the School Principal

The parent or guardian of multiple birth siblings who are assigned to the same grade level and school may request a consultative meeting with the principal to consider whether to initially place the siblings into the same classroom or into separate classrooms. The request must be made no later than five days before the first day of each school year or, if the scholars are enrolled after the school year starts, five days after their first day of attendance.

At the meeting, the parent may request either that the scholars be placed (1) into the same classroom; or (2) into separate classrooms. School officials may offer professional educational advice to the parent or guardian and may recommend an appropriate classroom placement for the scholars.

1. Initial Classroom Placement

Following the meeting, the principal shall place the scholars in accordance with the parent or guardian’s request unless doing so would require adding an additional class at the scholars’ grade level.

This section shall not otherwise limit the principal’s authority to determine the specific classroom assignment(s) for multiple birth siblings, including the scholars’ assignment to a specific teacher or team.

1. Change to Initial Classroom Placement

The principal may change the initial classroom assignment of one or more multiple birth siblings in the following circumstances:

1. the principal, in consultation with the scholars’ classroom teacher(s), determines at the end of the first grading period that the requested placement is disruptive to the school; or
2. the principal determines that one or more of the multiple birth siblings must be removed from a classroom pursuant to any board discipline policy, school rule, and/or the Code of Scholar Conduct.
3. Newly Enrolled Children of Military Families

The principal shall comply with the requirements of the Interstate Compact for Military Children (G.S. 115C-407.5) when making class assignments for children of military families, as defined in policy 4050, Children of Military Families.

1. Course Placement

When a scholar transfers before or during the school year, school administrators shall initially honor placement in educational courses based on the scholar’s enrollment in his or her sending school and/or educational assessments conducted at the sending school if the courses are offered. Course placement includes, but is not limited to, Honors, International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, vocational, technical, and career pathways courses. Continuing the scholar’s academic program from the previous school and promoting placement in academically and career challenging courses are to be primary concerns when considering the scholar’s course placement.

1. Educational Program Placement

For a newly enrolled scholar, school administrators shall initially honor placement of the scholar in educational programs based on current educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state or participation/placement in similar programs in the sending state. Such programs include, but are not limited to, gifted and talented programs and English as a Second Language programs.

1. Special Education Services

In compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, school administrators shall initially provide comparable services to a scholar with disabilities based on his or her current Individualized Education Program (IEP). In compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, school administrators shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of an incoming scholar with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, in order to provide the scholar with equal access to education. This accommodation does not preclude school administrators from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the scholar.

1. Placement Flexibility

The board authorizes and directs the principal and school administrators to be flexible in waiving course or program prerequisites or other preconditions for placement in courses or programs offered by the school.

Legal References: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12131 *et seq.*, 28 C.F.R. pt. 35; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq*., 34 C.F.R. pt. 300; G.S. 115C-36, -83.1G, -288, -366.3, -366.4, -390.7, -407.5

Cross References: Children of Military Families (policy 4050)

Adopted: April 15, 2020