

**EAST  
STROUDSBURG  
AREA  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: FOREIGN EXCHANGE  
STUDENTS

ADOPTED: August 19, 2002

REVISED: December 20, 2004  
September 20, 2010

| 239. FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS                 |  |
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| <p>1. Purpose</p>                              | <p>In order to promote cultural awareness and understanding and to provide diverse experiences to school district students, the Board shall admit foreign exchange students into schools of the school district. The Board believes that a foreign exchange student program is a valuable addition to the educational opportunities offered by the district and that participation in a foreign exchange program will broaden students' global awareness and appreciation for cultural differences.</p>  |
| <p>2. Authority<br/>8 U.S.C.<br/>Sec. 1101</p> | <p>The Board shall accept foreign exchange students who meet the established guidelines for admission to schools of the school district.</p> <p>The Board shall accept exchange students on a J-1 Visa who reside within the school district as participants in group-sponsored exchange programs approved by the Board. Exchange students on a J-1 Visa shall not be required to pay tuition.</p> <p>The Board shall accept privately sponsored exchange students on a F-1 Visa for attendance only in secondary schools upon payment of tuition at the established school district rate; tuition payments may not be waived. The period of attendance shall not exceed twelve (12) months.</p> <p>The Board reserves the right to limit the number of foreign exchange students admitted to the schools.</p> |
| <p>Title 22<br/>Sec. 11.11</p>                 | <p>A child's right to be admitted to school may not be conditioned on the child's immigration status. A school may not inquire regarding the immigration status of a student as part of the admission process. This provision does not relieve a student who has obtained an F-1 visa from the student's obligation to pay tuition under Federal law.</p>  |
| <p>3. Delegation of<br/>Responsibility</p>     | <p>The Superintendent shall be responsible for determining the visa status and eligibility of foreign exchange students applying for admission to schools of the school district.</p>  |

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| <p>4. Guidelines<br/>Pol. 203</p> <p>Title 22<br/>Sec. 11.11</p> | <p>All potential organizations or individuals applying for admission shall forward the request to the Superintendent or designee by July 1 <u>for the upcoming fall semester and December 1 for the upcoming spring semester</u><del>preceding the school year of attendance.</del></p> <p>The school principal will review all applications and make recommendations to the Superintendent. Upon approval, the Superintendent will recommend acceptance to the Board at its July <u>&amp; December</u> meetings.</p> <p>Foreign exchange students shall comply with all immunization requirements for students. Once admitted, all exchange students shall be subject to all school district policies and regulations governing students.</p> <p>The Board will accept applications for enrollment of foreign exchange students through agencies recognized by the high schools' guidance departments. Any additional applications not recognized by the applicable high school guidance department will be reviewed by the Board.</p> <p>No foreign exchange student shall be enrolled in either of the high schools of the school district without prior approval by the school's administration.</p> <p>Foreign exchange students must be participants in an approved foreign exchange program. Foreign exchange students sponsored by organizations will be accepted only from those groups approved and listed by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET), a not-for-profit organization committed to quality international educational travel and exchange, or from groups who meet the standards established by the CSIET.</p> <p>The number of foreign exchange students admitted into the school district in any one (1) academic year shall not exceed a total of six (6) <u>or the equivalency thereof.</u></p> <p>In an effort to achieve cultural diversity among participants, no more than two (2) foreign exchange students shall be <u>simultaneously</u> accepted from any one (1) approved program during any one (1) academic year.</p> <p>Once admitted, foreign exchange students shall be subject to all school district policies and regulations governing students.</p> <p>A school entity shall administer a home language survey to all students seeking first time enrollment in its schools in accordance with requirements of the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.</p> |
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| <p>Pa. Code<br/>Title 22<br/>Sec. 4.74</p> <p>8 U.S.C.<br/>Sec. 1101</p> | <p>The designated host family for any foreign exchange student shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Reside in the school district.</li><li>2. Be responsible for initiation of the application.</li><li>3. Assume all personal obligations for the child relative to school requirements.</li><li>4. Verify that they are serving as a volunteer host without personal profit.</li></ol> <p>Admission of foreign exchange students shall be subject to the following guidelines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Students shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age and shall be sufficiently fluent in English to ensure satisfactory communication with teachers, students and community. The level of fluency shall be determined by the administration.</li><li>2. Students may not be a graduate of their native school system.</li><li>3. Students will be considered for admittance on a space available basis.</li><li>4. Resident host families shall submit a statement accepting responsibility for the student and verifying they are serving as a volunteer host without personal profit.</li><li>5. Exchange students shall be encouraged to participate in all student activities and athletics, provided eligibility criteria are met.</li><li>6. Exchange students are not eligible to receive a high school diploma but may be awarded an honorary diploma and may participate in graduation exercises if the 12<sup>th</sup> grade has been satisfactorily completed and any other applicable obligations and/or guidelines have been met.</li><li>7. Foreign Exchange students shall not be granted fee waivers or be provided transportation at district expense beyond previously established school bus routes and capacities.</li></ol> |
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