

Good Neighbour Policy Advisory

1) Preamble/Background

Section 142(1) of *The Education Act, 1995* grants each Saskatchewan-resident student a right to attend school in the school division's boundaries where that student's parent/guardian resides. An issue arises when a receiving board of education receives a parental request to have their student(s) attend school where the parent/student(s) reside external to the school division's boundary.

This matter was discussed at Board Chairs Council in April, 2018 and a committee of board chairs volunteered to address this matter representing Prairie South, Prairie Valley, North East, Horizon, Living Sky, and Saskatchewan Rivers school divisions. The committee met in September 2018 and developed this policy advisory which boards of education are encouraged to adopt/adapt as they deem appropriate.

Authority

The Education Act, 1995 sections 54, and 142

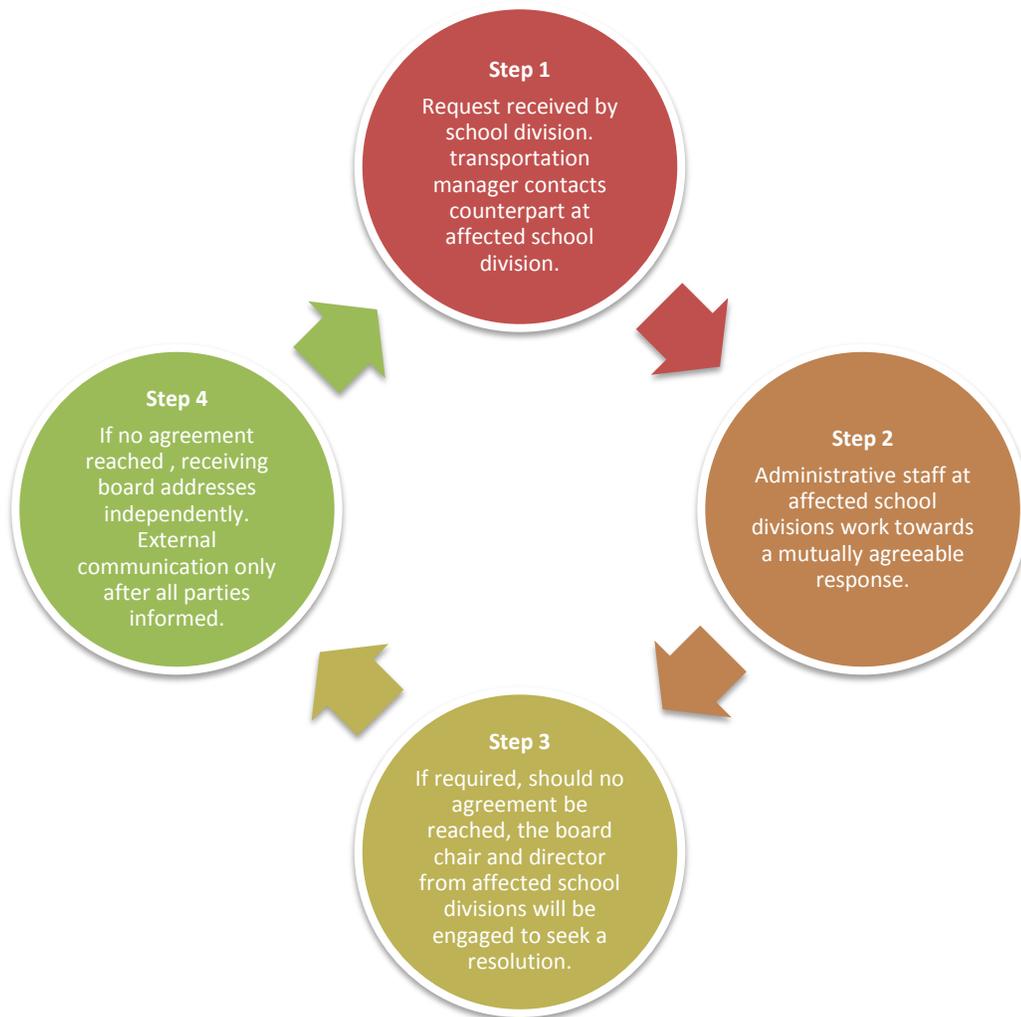
The School Division Administration Regulations, 2017 section 7

2) Process for Section 142(5) *The Education Act, 1995* Parental School Change Requests

- a. In the event that any receiving school division should receive a parental request that impacts a student's home school division, the transportation manager (or equivalent) at the receiving school division immediately communicates that request to his/her counterpart at the other student's home school division.
- b. The respective administrative staff at the affected school divisions will work collaboratively in an attempt to reach a mutually agreeable response to the request.
- c. If the respective administrative staff are unable to reach a mutually agreeable response, then the director and board chair or designate at each affected school division involved will be consulted and included in further discussions attempting to reach a mutually agreeable response to the parental request.
- d. If no resolution is achieved then the receiving board will address the request as it deems appropriate.
- e. No response to the request should be provided to the student's parent/guardian by the receiving board until all parties affected by the request have been informed and an attempt to reach a mutually agreeable response, as set out above, has been attempted.
- f. In all cases, the best interest of the student(s) involved remains the primary consideration of all parties.

Process Diagram

Note: At Step 2 (below), subsequent steps in the process are only required if resolution is not achieved.



3) Review

At least once per elected term of office, boards of education agree to meet with neighbouring boards of education to discuss potential boundary change opportunities, including joint alteration of boundary requests as described in s. 7(1) (b) of *The School Division Administration Regulations, 2017*, as a proactive measure.

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