

IN COUNTY STUDENTS ATTENDING OUT-OF-COUNTY SCHOOLS

Summers County Board of Education believes that Summers County Schools provides a quality education to the students living in Summers County. Furthermore, knowing that the state school aid formula is driven by enrollment, and knowing that Summers County has not passed a school levy for many years, it is the policy of the Board not to release students to attend school in other counties unless warranted by individual factors. The Board will consider such requests in good faith as required by statute and WVDE policy.

Those guardians/parents desiring a release from Summers County must send a written request to the superintendent at least ten (10) days prior to the Board's last regular meeting prior to the 1st instructional day of school of the current school year. The request must at least include the name, age and grade of the child, the physical address of the child, the name of the county/school the student requests to attend (Note: The law first requires approval of the sending county, Summers County), and the reason(s) for the request.

The Board recognizes that the statute and WVDE policy require Summers County to consider individual factors and weigh them against the problem of loss of state funding and difficulty in getting levies passed. In doing so, Summers County will consider, among other factors: whether the bus ride in the county of residence exceeds recommended times; --whether the student has some legitimate connection with the receiving school, such as a sibling attending; -- whether there is some type of serious health issue that the receiving county is better equipped to handle, such as the student's doctor practicing near the receiving school; -- Note: Ordinarily, convenience to child care or work are not issues that weigh towards granting the transfer request; -- the aggregate loss of funding the sending county has suffered through these transfers; and difficulty in passing excess levy because parents with children attending school in other counties are not invested in their county of residence.

The Board will review the information provided by the guardians/parents, at the latest, the last Board meeting prior to the 1st instructional day (families are encouraged to submit requests earlier especially given the receiving county must approve the student's request, and given the need for Summers County administration to review the request and for sufficient time to place the request on the Board's agenda), and the requesting family may attend the meeting to address the Board should they so desire. Should the Board deny the request, the Superintendent will then send a letter to the parent, within two (2) business days of the Board's decision, and informing the guardian/parent of the decision, and if a denial, notification of their right to appeal to the state superintendent of schools pursuant to WVDE 7212.

Only under extenuating and extraordinary circumstances will the Board consider requests received after the last regular Board meeting prior to the 1st instructional day.