

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

PUPILS STUDENTS
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Assignment of Pupils Students

5120 ASSIGNMENT OF PUPILS STUDENTS

The Board of Education directs the assignment of pupils students to the schools, programs, and classes of this district consistent with the best educational interests of pupils students and the best uses of the resources of this district. Building principals may assign pupils in their schools to grades, classes, and groups on the basis of the needs of the pupil as well as the sound administration of the building, and in accordance with Policy 2314.

~~Pupils Students shall generally attend the school located in the attendance area of their residence. The Pupils desiring to attend a school other than that to which they are assigned shall request exception in accordance with policy 5124. Additionally, the Superintendent may assign a pupil student to a school other than that designated by the attendance area when such an exception is justified by circumstances and/or is in the best interest of the student. All such decisions of the Superintendent shall be final. Every reasonable effort shall will be made to continue a student in the same elementary school once the student has been enrolled in that elementary school permit pupils so assigned by the Superintendent to be continuously enrolled in the same school.~~

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~~The Superintendent shall assign incoming transfer students to the school in their attendance area of their residence provided the district's school or class size requirements can accommodate the student's enrollment. The Building Principal may assign students in his/her their school to grades, classes, and groups on the basis of the needs of the student as well as the sound administration of the school.~~

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In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-38.a.(1), a parent parent/guardian of twins or higher order multiples enrolled in the same Kindergarten through eighth grade level at the same public school may request, in writing, the children be placed in the same classroom or in separate classrooms. The Principal shall make the classroom placement requested in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-38.a.(1).

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-38a.(2), a parent parent/guardian of twins or higher order multiples enrolled in the same ninth through twelfth grade level at the same public school may request, in writing, the children be placed in the same classroom or in separate classrooms. The placement of such children shall be made at the discretion of the Principal in the best interest of the school and its students. The parent parent/guardian may appeal the Principal's classroom placement decision to the Board of Education, which shall make a final determination on the placement.

The written request must be submitted to the Principal no later than fourteen days after the first day of each school year. ~~Parent~~Parent/guardians of twins or higher order multiples enrolling after the school year commences shall request the classroom placement in writing no later than fourteen days after the first day of attendance.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-38.(2)(b), a Principal may, after consultation with the students' ~~parent~~parent/guardian and teachers at the end of the initial grading period, request the Board make a different classroom placement determination for the twins or higher order multiples if the initial classroom placement is determined to be disruptive to any of the students in the class or classes, or if the Principal concludes the initial placement does not sufficiently support the students' academic or social development. Upon receiving such request, the Board shall make a final classroom placement determination.

“Higher order multiples” means triplets, quadruplets, quintuplets, or larger group siblings born at one birth. Provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-38 do not apply to a school district which maintains only a single classroom for the grade level in which twins or higher order multiples are enrolled. The ~~parent~~parent/guardian shall be responsible for any additional student transportation costs that are incurred by the district as a result of providing the requested classroom placement, unless the district is in agreement with the placement. In the event one of the twins or higher order multiples receives special education services, the requested placement shall not be accommodated if the placement is inconsistent with a student's Individualized Education Plan.

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During a pandemic or public health emergency, twins (in the elementary setting) shall be placed in the same homeroom to limit exposure to other students and staff. Twins with different

academic needs, as specified in an IEP or 504 shall be the exception.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-38

Cross Reference: 2314, 5124

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