

**Davenport Community School District
District Diversity Plan
Adopted February 11, 2008
Amended and Approved by Board January 25, 2016
Iowa DE Approval February 3, 2016**

Rationale and Background

The mission of the Davenport Community School District is to enhance each student's abilities by providing a quality education enriched by our diverse community. The District believes maintaining a diverse school district better prepares students to live in a global society, expands every student's educational opportunities and leads to a more effective use of District resources.

The District's Diversity Plan places substantial emphasis on the delivery of a quality education to its Pre-K through 12 students. Providing a quality education means providing students the opportunity to interact and learn from students of different demographic backgrounds.

The foundation of the diversity plan is the commitment made by the Board of Directors through specific board policies with respect to State regulations. The Iowa Department of Education proposed amending Chapter 17, "Open Enrollment" of the Iowa Administrative Code. Such amendments are in response to a June 28, 2007, decision of the United States Supreme Court disallowing student assignments based solely or primarily on race. As amended, the Iowa Department of Education in Chapter 17 mandates the school board, in its diversity plan, defines "minority" students and provides characteristics the board may consider in defining "minority."

To ensure that parental choice of a school or school district of attendance for their student(s) does not adversely affect the implementation of the District's Diversity Plan, the District has identified socioeconomic status (SES) as the key demographic characteristics to use in its definition of Category A (low SES) and Category B (non-low SES) students.

The District will use the district enrollment numbers at the end of the first quarter to determine a ratio of Category A to Category B students. Once this data have been gathered and analyzed, a Diversity Plan Reference Chart for the District and for individual buildings within the district will be developed on an annual basis. These charts will be used as reference points for the approval and/or denial of requests made for between-districts, as well as, within Davenport District transfers.

Operational Definitions

The following terms are essential for understanding the key characteristics that will define DCSD's diversity plan:

Minority/Nonminority

For the purpose of the District Diversity Plan and any policy(ies) related to such Plan, "Minority" is defined to include a category of students disadvantaged with respect to a second category of students (the "NonMinority") in terms of socioeconomic status. Minority students are those students that are disadvantaged economically in that they are receiving free or reduced lunch or have a fee waiver. Nonminority are those students that do not meet the definition for Minority. To avoid confusion, the District Plan and related policy(ies), instead of referring to the Minority and Nonminority population, will refer to students as being placed into a certain "Category," with Category A representing "Minority" students and Category B representing "Nonminority" students.

Socioeconomic Status (SES)

Socioeconomic status is based on whether a student receives free & reduced lunch or has a fee waiver. Students are divided into two classifications for the purposes established in this plan – low SES or non-low SES. There are three ways a student can be identified as low SES: Direct Certification from the State, the Free/Reduced Lunch Meals Status Application or the Household Economic Survey.

Category

Students are placed into one of two categories (A or B) based upon their key demographic characteristics.

District Ratio

The ratio of District Category A to Category B students as determined by income.

School Ratio

The ratio of School Category A to Category B students as determined by income.

School Category

School A is a school that has a Category A to B ratio greater than the District ratio. School B is a school that has a Category A to B ratio less than the District ratio.

Between-District Open Enrollment

The District shall participate in the state enacted Open Enrollment Program, both as a sending and a receiving District, in accordance with guidelines set forth by the Iowa Department of Education and Iowa Code Section 281.

Continuous Open Enrollment

When a student or family moves into a new district of residence and desires that the student remain in the original district with no interruption in his or her educational program.

Within-District Diversity Plan

The District shall identify buildings for Open Transfer Requests to transfer based upon the key demographic characteristics identified above including limitations that may occur due to insufficient classroom space, special programs or services, suspended or excluded status, or restrictions on athletics (high schools only).

Affirmation of Board Policies, Rules and Regulations

This plan reaffirms the following current Board Policies and Administrative Regulations related to the District Diversity Plan:

- 100.0 Community Relations – District Philosophy
- 102.07 Community Relations – Long-Range Needs Assessment
- 203.11 Administration – Dissemination of Policy
- 203.12 Administration – Review of Administrative Regulations
- 203.13 Administration – Collaborative Decision-Making
- 401.01 Personnel – General – Employment Equity and Non-Discrimination
- 401.02 Personnel – General – Affirmative Action Statement
- 501.01 Students – Resident Students
- 501.02 Students – Non-Resident Students
- 501.04 Students – Entrance Requirements
- 501.06 Students – Homeless Children and Youth
- 501.07 Students – Placement
- 501.08 Students – Legal Status
- 501.11 Students – Attendance Centers
- 501.12 Students – Boundary Lines
- 501.16 Students – Open Enrollment Between Districts
- 504.05 Students – Expulsion/Exclusion
- 504.06 Students – Parent’s and Student’s Rights
- 504.07 Students – Harassment: Students
- 504.10 Students – Anti-Bullying/Harassment Policy: Students
- 505.06 Students – Athletic Eligibility As It Pertains to In-District Transfers
- 603.01 Instruction – Class Size—Elementary
- 604.12 Instruction – Balanced Enrollment
- 605.10 Instruction – Multicultural & Gender Fair Approaches to the Educational Program
- 803.01 Internal Board Operations – Development of Policy
- 803.03 Internal Board Operations – Administrative Procedures
- 901.02 By-Laws of the Board – Legal Status of the Board
- 901.03 By-Laws of the Board – General Powers and Duties

Diversity Plan Reference Chart: Open Enrollment

This chart is used as part of the approval or denial of between district open enrollment requests.

Student socioeconomic status (SES) is based on whether a student receives free or reduced lunch or has a fee waiver. There are three ways a student can be identified as low SES: Direct Certification from the State, the Free/Reduced Lunch Meals Status Application or the Household Economic Survey. If no income data is provided, the student will be identified as non-low SES.

Category Type	SES Combinations
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Certification, F/R Lunch or Economic Survey
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid

Enrollment figures are from the end of the first quarter of the school year of the open enrollment application. Below is the breakdown of Category A and Category B students:

Enrollment Figures for the 2018-19 Effect Year		
Category Type	Enrollment	% of Total
A	10075	65.8%
B	5245	34.2%

Approvals for Category A and Category B applications to leave the District will be granted in the same number as the applications to enter the District. For each open enrollment application received into the District, a corresponding Category A or Category B application for open enrollment out of the District will be approved. A lottery process will be used for each category type if the number of applications seeking to leave the District exceeds the number of applications of that category coming into the District.

An applicant whose sibling is already participating in open enrollment to another school district will be approved to open enroll out of the District. For the lottery process, this sibling will take one of the corresponding Category A or Category B openings made available by the open enrollment applications received into the District.

Students whose families move to the Davenport Community School District that request continuous open enrollment in their previous district of residence will not be held to the criteria identified above regarding the District's key demographic characteristics. In accordance with the Iowa Code, they will be granted Board approval under the provisions for continuous open enrollment.

**Diversity Plan Reference Chart: Within District Transfers
(Applies to Elementary and Intermediate Student Transfers Only)**

This chart is used as part of the approval or denial of within district transfer requests. School Ratios are computed in the same manner as the District Ratio. A school is identified as Category A if its Category A to B Student Ratio is greater than the District Ratio. Similarly, a school is identified as Category B if its Category A to B Student Ratio is less than the District Ratio.

Category A to B Building Ratio for the 2018-19 Effect Year				
Attending School	Category A	Category B	Student Ratio	School Type
Jefferson Elementary	411	38	10.8	A
Madison Elementary	363	48	7.6	A
Monroe Elementary	355	56	6.3	A
Smart Intermediate	531	87	6.1	A
Keystone Academy	119	23	5.2	A
Mid City High	211	41	5.1	A
Hayes Elementary	273	71	3.8	A
Buchanan Elementary	261	68	3.8	A
Fillmore Elementary	303	96	3.2	A
Washington Elementary	196	71	2.8	A
Garfield Elementary	282	108	2.6	A
Williams Intermediate	539	208	2.6	A
Jackson Elementary	230	108	2.1	A
Wood Intermediate	503	243	2.1	A
Wilson Elementary	317	155	2.0	A
District	9565	5395	1.77	
Adams Elementary	345	206	1.7	B
Truman Elementary	231	161	1.4	B
McKinley Elementary	217	157	1.4	B
North High	684	502	1.4	B
West High	974	716	1.4	B
Sudlow Intermediate	477	361	1.3	B
Buffalo Elementary	142	110	1.3	B
Central High	822	683	1.2	B
Harrison Elementary	249	279	0.9	B
Walcott Elementary	85	98	0.9	B
Eisenhower Elementary	206	246	0.8	B
Walcott Intermediate	172	224	0.8	B
Blue Grass Elementary	67	231	0.3	B

All within district transfers will adhere to Board Policy 501.11 -

Elementary and middle school parents and guardians are responsible for enrolling students in the school within the boundary of the attendance area in which the student resides. If it is discovered that a student is attending a school outside his or her attendance area, the parent or guardian will be directed to remove the student and enroll him or her in the school within the attendance area where the student resides. School and district administration are charged with continuously monitoring elementary and middle school enrollment to assure that students are enrolled in schools in the attendance area where they live unless an exception has been granted.

Exceptions for the elementary and middle school transfer requests are as follows:

- A. Transfers approved by the superintendent, or his or her representative, for health, safety or security of students or staff.
- B. Transfers that meets the elements of the District Diversity Plan, namely:
 - 1. Category A students transferring from a Category A school to a Category B school, or
 - 2. Category B students transferring from a Category B school to a Category A school.

Transfers under this provision must be requested no later than May 1 for the following school year. Only one such request will be approved in any single school year.

Transfers of students will be approved with the following provisions:

- A. Parents or guardians are responsible for transportation.
- B. Transportation will be provided for district administrative placements.
- C. Transfers are only allowed to receiving schools where room is available.
- D. Transfer approval will not cause elementary class sizes to exceed district standards.
- E. If you reside outside the walk zone of the desired school, and a transportation route exists, then transportation may be provided for student transfers which balance a school's diversity ratio as defined on the Diversity Plan Reference Chart in the District Diversity Plan.