## HENDERSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

# **STUDENTS Foreign Exchange Students**

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#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Believing that educational and cultural exchange is beneficial to the students of Henderson County and to the community, the Henderson County Board of Public Education endorses the enrollment of foreign students in the high schools under the following conditions:

- 1. The student is in the United States under a J-1 visa and sponsored by an exchange program listed on the most current Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) Advisory List (www.csiet.org) and maintains a network of qualified and trained local representative(s) living in or near the community. The sponsoring agency must provide orientation and ongoing support for both the host family and the student. In addition, the sponsoring agency must show evidence of a screening process which includes personal interviews designed to match student and family interests, formal background checks and other screening activities. Evidence of the above screening shall be presented to the receiving school by the foreign exchange organization.
- 2. Exchange organizations will submit student and host family applications by July 1 prior to the start of the school year or, if after that date, at the discretion of the Superintendent.
- 3. Each foreign exchange student must be proficient in English sufficient enough to be able to maintain a regular class schedule and to participate in class. Furthermore, the student must be committed to academic achievement and must possess the social skills to get along well with others. Students are expected to maintain passing grades.
- 4. Exchange student enrollment shall not exceed one school year, and students must have medical and accident insurance that meets or exceeds U.S. Department of State guidelines. Copies of these insurance policies shall be provided to the school as part of the application process.
- 5. The school shall not be expected to provide any financial assistance for educational or living expenses of the student.
- 6. An opportunity provided to any exchange student shall not cause denial of the same opportunity to a Henderson County student.
- 7. A maximum of five (5) students may be enrolled at any high school for a school year. Acceptance will be on a first come/first serve basis.
- 8. Principals are encouraged to permit more than one foreign exchange organization to place exchange students. Enrollment shall be at the discretion of the school principal.

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- 9. Only those exchange students who meet all graduation requirements of the Henderson County Public Schools shall be allowed to receive a diploma and participate in graduation exercises.
- 10. All foreign exchange students must reside with a Henderson County family and attend the same high school as the child in that family unless circumstances warrant review and/or approval by the Superintendent.
- 11. The exchange student will be subject to the policies contained within the Student Code of Conduct and all other policies of the Henderson County Public Schools.
- 12. A school shall not sign immigration/naturalization forms. All paperwork and monitoring and reporting requirements with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency shall be the responsibility of the foreign exchange organization.
- 13. The school reserves the right to dismiss any foreign exchange student who fails to meet any requirement of this policy. The principal shall notify the exchange organization on each occurrence and shall report the same to the superintendent.