

## **Exchange Students**

The district recognizes the cultural, language and other educational benefits gained by American and foreign students as a result of skillfully counseled, organized and conducted overseas study-travel and exchange programs. Significant benefits accrue to each exchange student, the host families, and to the host school-community; among these are:

1. the furthering of international understanding and the expanding of educational opportunities; and
2. the enabling of students to understand different value systems and to appreciate different cultures.

The superintendent's designee will establish procedures to ensure that the acceptance and placement of foreign exchange students in our high schools and the foreign study and travel of district students will be a beneficial and noteworthy experience for all involved.

In furthering the interests of the exchange student and the host family, the district will admit to its high school program foreign students from international student exchange visitor placement organizations' programs that have been approved by both the district and the United States (US) International Communications Agency and that have registered with the office of the Secretary of State. The school district will accept applications from host families who arrange a family-to-family exchange and who meet district criteria. The district may limit the number of students placed in its schools in accordance with official State Department regulations; such limits may be a set enrollment percentage.

### **Background**

Various organizations have traditionally supported foreign based learning experiences for students. Such organizations seek the assistance of local school districts in placing students. The US State Department regulates the admission of foreign students into the country, including the placement of limits on the number of students who are permitted entry through exchange programs.

RCW 19.166 requires international student exchange visitor placement organizations to register with the Secretary of State and to provide an informational document in English to each student, host family, and the superintendent of the school district in which the student is being placed.

The board directs the superintendent to prepare appropriate procedures to implement this policy.

### Legal References:

RCW 19.166 International Student Exchange  
RCW 28A.300.240 International Student Exchange

### Adoption Date:

970318