

## COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

**POLICY:** NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

**DATE ADOPTED:** May 1, 2018

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The Colchester School District may accept non-resident students grades preschool to 12 when such placement is deemed to be in the best interest of the student, the district, and/or the family. The Colchester School District will assure that non-resident students are admitted to the schools of the district, when space is available, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing tuition payment and non-discrimination.

This policy shall not apply to students who are enrolled through the public high school choice program created by ACT 129 of 2011 (Adj. Sess.).

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **I. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION**

No non-resident will be denied admission as a tuition student if the reason for denial is that the student is disabled as defined in section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended or that the student is in need of special education services. Nor will any child be denied admission on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), ancestry, national origin, place of birth, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, marital status, or any other classification protected by federal or state law.

Parents of non-resident students seeking permission to attend the Colchester School District must address the following:

- A.** Make a written request to the Superintendent of Schools.
- B.** Agree to provide transportation to and from school when appropriate.
- C.** Agree that the student will follow all rules and regulations of the school.
- D.** Request permission annually to attend school in the Colchester School District.

The school district will consider the following criteria when making the decision to approve or deny a request:

- A.** Admission will not adversely impact class size, available facilities or existing staff.

Last Adopted: November 4, 2003

Date Warned: April 13, 2018

First Reading: April 17, 2018

Second Reading: May 1, 2018

- B.** The student is in good standing at the school or schools most recently attended. “Good standing” means:
1. The student has not been legally dismissed or suspended for more than ten (10) days during the preceding twelve months for disciplinary reasons;
  2. The student has not been legally dismissed or expelled from any educational institution within the preceding five (5) years; and
  3. The student is making satisfactory progress toward the completion of an approved school or home school program.

## **II. TUITION**

Each year, the district shall establish non-resident tuition rates for the next school year and shall notify the school board of all sending school districts and the Secretary of Education of any proposed increase in tuition rates. Separate tuition rates may be established for elementary and secondary students, and for students who are eligible to participate in special education programs. Tuition rates will be established in accord with Chapter 21 of Title 16 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, and regulations of the State Board of Education.

Tuition payments for non-resident students may be paid by one of three methods: annually, with one payment being made by October 1; bi-annually, first payment on October 1 and the second payment of February 1; or quarterly, with payments due on October 1, December 1, February 1 and April 1. Tuition for non-resident students may be waived by the Superintendent for up to 30 school days to accommodate children whose parents are moving into or leaving the Colchester School District. To obtain a waiver, parents or guardians must apply in writing stating the reasons for a waiver. The Superintendent will consider the special circumstances of the parents and the needs of the school district.

High School seniors whose parents move from Colchester after the end of the first half of the school year may be permitted to attend Colchester public schools on a tuition-free basis until the end of the current school year. The Board may grant a tuition waiver in such circumstances provided the student is in good standing and is making normal academic progress towards graduation. All requests seeking a tuition waiver shall be submitted in writing to the Board prior to student's enrollment or continued enrollment in school. The student, or the student's parent or guardian is responsible for providing transportation to and from school.

The Superintendent, or their designee, shall develop procedures and forms necessary for the effective implementation and administration of this policy.