

## Policy JFABB - Admission of Foreign Exchange Students

The West Bath School Administrative Unit (WBSAU) Board of Directors welcomes and encourages foreign exchange students and recognizes the diversity and cultural awareness that they bring to the academic and social life of our schools and communities. Therefore, the Board supports the placement of these students by responsible organizations.

Under Maine law, a student who is not a resident of the State is considered a resident of the school administrative unit in which the student resides if the superintendent of the attending school has approved the acceptance of the student as a foreign exchange student and the student is attending the school at public expense. Therefore, this policy applies to any foreign exchange students holding valid J-1 exchange visitor non-immigrant visas who may be placed with host guardians residing in the WBSAU.

To protect the interests of WBSAU, its schools and students, only foreign exchange students who are sponsored by organizations or programs accredited by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) and registered with the Maine Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State and students privately sponsored by area residents shall be considered for placement with host guardians residing within the WBSAU.

Foreign exchange students may be placed with host guardians residing within the WBSAU under the following circumstances:

1. Foreign exchange students desiring to attend Morse High School may be placed with host guardians residing within WBSAU if: (i) the superintendent of RSU 1 has approved the admission of the student as a foreign exchange student; (ii) the tuition for the student has been waived by RSU 1; and (iii) the host guardian or sponsoring organization has notified the superintendent of WBSAU that the foregoing conditions have been met at least sixty (60) days prior to the first day of school. WBSAU will not fund the tuition of any foreign exchange students desiring to attend Morse High School who have not obtained tuition waivers.
2. Foreign exchange students desiring to attend Brunswick High School may be placed with host guardians residing within WBSAU if: (i) the superintendent of the Brunswick School Department has approved the admission of the student as a foreign exchange student; (ii) the tuition for the student has been waived by the Brunswick School Department; (iii) the admission of the student at Brunswick High School does not cause WBSAU to exceed the school choice cap set forth in Section 4 of the Withdrawal Agreement with RSU 1; and (iv) the host guardian or sponsoring organization has notified the superintendent of WBSAU that the foregoing conditions have been met at least sixty (60) days prior to the first day of school. WBSAU will not fund the tuition of any foreign exchange students desiring to attend Brunswick High School who have not obtained tuition waivers.
3. Foreign exchange students and their organizations/sponsors shall be subject to all applicable policies, rules and regulations of the school administrative district in which they are enrolled and are solely responsible for awareness of and compliance with such policies, rules and regulations.

**Cross Reference:**

JFABA – School Choice

Withdrawal Agreement By and Between the Town of West Bath and Regional School Unit 1

First Reading: 11/02/16

Second Reading: 12/7/16

Adopted: 12/7/16