

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools Boundary Exception Request Procedure

School Board policy states that, "All children in Kindergarten through Grade 5, living within the designated boundary lines of a given elementary school, must attend this given school unless a written exception is granted."

Boundary Exceptions are valid for one school year only, as school circumstances change on a yearly basis. Therefore, families need to reapply for a Boundary Exception each school year. The application period for Boundary Exceptions is the first full three weeks in February of each year. The application period for the 2012-13 school year is February 6 - 24, 2012. Application is made by completing the Boundary Exception Request Form which is available at any school office, Central Office and at the District Website. All applications are due to the Director of Human Resources no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 24, 2012.

Families will receive an Acceptance/Denial Notice which may include a Confirmation Form, by the end of the school year, or as soon as practicable. Circumstances may arise that prevent the Boundary Exception decisions from being reached prior to the close of the school year. If the Boundary Exception is approved, it is the family's responsibility to return the Confirmation Form to the Human Resources Office by the date indicated. The option of remaining at the neighborhood school is no longer viable after accepting placement. If the Confirmation Letter is not returned by the indicated date, the Boundary Exception Acceptance is invalid and the student will remain at the neighborhood school for the following school year.

If the requests exceed the space available, a lottery system will be used.

Transportation, if available, is at the expense of the parent.

Boundary Exceptions will be considered using the following criteria:

- Educational Programming
- Class Size
- Before/After School Care
- Student Academic and Behavioral Status

Families that move outside of their neighborhood school, but remain within the District boundaries, after the Boundary Exception Application deadline, will have the opportunity to apply for a Boundary Exception into their previous neighborhood school for the following school year.

Note: The District Administration reserves the right to transfer students for justifiable, educational purposes not stated within this policy.

Although it is the District Administrations goal to meet parent requests through the Boundary Exception process, there is a potential for approved Boundary Exceptions to be reversed prior to the beginning of the school year due to fiscal restraints of the District.