



Special Education Advisory Committee

Draft Policy 8155 **SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT**

Review and Recommendations Summary **January 11, 2023**

Prepared For:
SEAC Membership
Special Education Community
Loudoun County School Board

Overview: Policy 8155

SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT

The School Board shall assign students to the school that serves the area of their actual residence. Students will attend the school designated by the School Board in the attendance zone in which the students reside in the pupil assignment plan (also called “regular school of assignment”). Exceptions to school assignment will be made in accordance with School Board Policies 8160, “Exceptions to School Assignment Due to Attendance Zone Change” and 8155.

History: SEAC reviewed Draft Policy 8155 on October 12, 2022, these recommendations were provided to the Superintendent, per VA Regulations items 3 and 5 below. The ratified review document, [2022-10-12, Draft Policy 8155, School Assignment](#) is located on the SEAC website. SEAC continues to recommend the October 12, 2022 changes to the new Draft Policy 8155 provided to SEAC on December 28, 2022. None of SEAC’s recommendations were adopted in the new draft. The updated Draft of Policy 8155 is not student focused and fails to align with the [One LCPS: 2027 Strategic Plan for Excellence](#). This review document focuses on the new language provided by division counsel.

The Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia reflect the state and federal requirements for the provision of special education and related services. Section [8VAC20-81-230 D.2](#) of the Virginia regulations mandate that an active SEAC exists, specifies membership that requires that a majority of members be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities as well as defines specific functions of the SEAC, which are as follows:

1. Advise the local school division of needs in the education of students with disabilities;
2. Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of students with disabilities;
3. Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of students with disabilities to the division superintendent for transmission to the local school board;
4. Assist the local school division in interpreting plans to the community for meeting the special needs of students with disabilities for educational services;
5. Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board; and
6. Participate in the review of the local school division’s annual plan.

This report satisfies requirement 3 and 5 above. SEAC has reviewed the draft policy and determined that it does not meet the needs of students with disabilities. SEAC is further concerned that these policy revisions are not in alignment with the [One LCPS: 2027 Strategic Plan for Excellence](#).

Summary of Concerns and Recommendations

Concern 1:

The additional language added in lines 362-372 addresses LCPS administrative placement of a student at a different school other than the student's home school. The draft policy fails to identify or to address the student's disability related needs.

Recommendation 1:

At line 366, Change "A meeting among the administration of the student's current school, the administration of the student's future school," to "A meeting among the staff of the student's current and receiving school (to include from both schools, the principal or designee, IEP/504 case manager (if applicable), and school counselor),"

- b. 365 A meeting among the administration of the student's current school, the
366 administration of the student's future school, a representative from the
367 Office of Safety and Security, and any outside agencies that may have any
368 relevant information regarding the student, including, but not limited to local
369 law enforcement, court services, private providers, and the Office of the
370 Commonwealth Attorney for the purpose of discussing any relevant safety
371 considerations.
- b. 365 A meeting among the staff of the student's current school and receiving
366 school (to include from both schools, the principal or designee, IEP/504 case
367 manager (if applicable), and school counselor), a representative from the Office
368 of Safety and Security, and any outside agencies that may have any
368 relevant information regarding the student, including, but not limited to local
369 law enforcement, court services, private providers, and the Office of the
370 Commonwealth Attorney for the purpose of discussing any relevant safety
371 considerations.

Recommendation 2:

At line 372, add new section c.

"For students with an IEP or Section 504 plan, an emergency IEP/504 meeting will be convened. For all other students, pursuant to IDEA/504 Child Find, a team will be convened to consider making a referral for evaluation for special education and related services."

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375 evaluation for special education and related services

SEAC Membership Vote

SEAC Membership Vote on Recommendations

Quorum: 13 out of 17 SEAC members present

Motion:

- Motion by Melissa Waugh to approve Recommendation 1, seconded by Shehnaz Khan
- Motion by Melissa Waugh to approve Recommendation 2, seconded by Rozeena Khattak

Vote Summary:

Recommendation 1: Passed Unanimously

Recommendation 2: Passed Unanimously