

Contact: Aimee Clayton

MALCOLM PRICE LABORATORY SCHOOL
STUDENT TRANSFER AND BOUNDARY LINE AGREEMENT

Action Requested: Approve the University of Northern Iowa's request to enter into a Student Transfer and Boundary Line Agreement with the Cedar Falls Community School District for the benefit of the Malcolm Price Laboratory School. The final Agreement shall be subject to Board Office review and approval.

Executive Summary: Iowa Code Chapter 256G provides for the establishment of a statewide research and development (R&D) school at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI). Pursuant to the code requirements, the Iowa Department of Education and UNI have been working to transition the Malcolm Price Laboratory School (MPLS) to the statewide R&D school¹. As part of the transition, the University and the board of directors of the Cedar Falls Community School District (CFCSD) are required to develop a student transfer policy and a basic geography boundary line agreement. This agreement must ensure that students currently enrolled at MPLS have priority access to enrollment at the R&D school.

The proposed Agreement contains the following key provisions:

Enrollment Application – Application for enrollment starts with the submission of an open enrollment application as provided in Iowa Code Chapter 282.18. Students enrolled as of October 1, 2010 do not need to submit an open enrollment application to remain enrolled in the R&D school.

Eligibility – The following students are eligible to enroll in the R&D school:

- Students in kindergarten through grade 12 who reside within the established Attendance Zone.
- Students who attended the R&D preschool for the full academic year immediately preceding the transfer request.
- Students who attended the R&D school during a period of time when their parents resided in University Student Housing.
- Students applying to enroll in grades 7 through 12, regardless of whether they reside within the established Attendance Zone.

Verification of Residence – As part of the enrollment application, individuals must submit sufficient verification of residence. Sufficient verification shall consist of all of the following:

- A copy of a signed and dated lease, the most recent property tax bill, or a signed contract for sale; and
- A voter registration card, utility bill, landline phone bill, or driver's license containing the current address; and
- A signed statement attesting that the prospective student resides at the address.

¹ For further information see Agenda Item 2k from the December 9, 2010 meeting of the Board of Regents.

Approval – The CFCSD and the R&D school shall consult annually to determine the maximum number of students who may be granted transfer in accordance with the enrollment caps outlined in Iowa Code Chapter 282.18(16). Approval shall be granted as follows:

- First preference given to students who have enrolled in prior years, in order of the most recent year of attendance.
- Next preference given to applicants who reside with a sibling currently enrolled in the R&D school.
- Third preference given to applicants who exhibit attributes currently under-represented in the student population at the R&D school in relation to the student population of the State of Iowa.
- Final preference given based on date of application.
- The R&D school retains the discretion to accept or deny an approved transfer request.
- Students who were previously granted a transfer request and who remain continuously enrolled in the R&D school needn't reapply each year.

Tuition – in Process – Any student may enroll at the R&D school, regardless of where he or she resides, provided they pay tuition equal to the state cost per pupil established by the Iowa Department of Education.

Term of the Agreement – The Agreement is effective for three years, through the 2013-2014 academic year.