

**Franklin Public Schools
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038**

Action Required

Subject: Policy

Date: April 9, 2024

Dept: School Committee

Reason: Required Vote

Enclosure: yes

Recommendation:

Policy – 2nd Reading / Adoption

I recommend adoption of policy JFABB – Admittance of Foreign Exchange Students as discussed.

Action Requested of the School Committee:

Majority vote of the School Committee is required.

| <u>Vote Tabulator</u> | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| E. Gallagher: Y / N | D. McNeill: Y / N |
| D. Callaghan: Y / N | R. O’Sullivan: Y / N |
| Al Charles: Y / N | KP Sompally: Y / N |
| P. Griffith: Y / N | Action: _____ |

ADMITTANCE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Franklin School Committee recognizes the benefits of engaging with students from diverse cultures and may accept nonresident foreign exchange high school students. Foreign exchange students must live in Franklin with a legal guardian and/or coming through a foreign exchange program listed on the most current Council of Standards for International Exchange Travel ([CSIET](#)) Advisory List, as approved by the School Committee annually.

It is acknowledged that a foreign exchange student with an F-1 visa who resides in the community has the same right to attend public schools as a student who is a United States citizen. However, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 6, and U.S. C.S. 1101 (9) (15) (f) (i), foreign students with an F-1 student visa will be charged tuition based upon the most recent per pupil cost published by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Education.

Neither the Franklin School Committee nor the Town of Franklin is liable for expenses related to participation in all district programs, co-curricular activities, athletics, transportation, or other fee-based offerings, and they will not participate in the application process required for a student visa.

By April of each year, the superintendent will recommend, and the school committee will vote on the number of foreign exchange students that will be allowed to enroll in the district for the coming school year.

Admittance is up to one year, on the basis of available space and resources and in alignment with all School Admission School Committee policies (JF, JFAA, JFAA-E1, JFAA-E2, JFAA-R).

The foreign exchange student application for admittance with all supporting documents, as determined by the superintendent, must be submitted to the superintendent's office no later than July 1st for enrollment in the coming school year.

Franklin Public Schools reserves the right to deny admission to any student not sponsored by an approved foreign exchange program. Franklin Public Schools reserves the right to unenroll any student whose visa expires after enrollment or is no longer sponsored by a foreign exchange program.

A foreign exchange student will be ineligible to receive a Franklin diploma unless they fulfill all Franklin High School graduation requirements. Foreign exchange students are expected to adhere to all other policies, procedures, and expectations.

In addition to tuition, a foreign exchange student must meet all eligibility requirements as specified by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association in order to participate in interscholastic athletics.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop appropriate procedures for implementing this policy, including those governing the admission and tenure of foreign exchange students.

To School Committee for Second Reading/Adoption: 4/9/24