

The Jackson Public School District ("JPSD" or the "District") seeks to ensure the educational stability of students in foster care and their equal access to the same free and appropriate public education through high school graduation provided to other students, as required by law. Educational stability has a lasting impact on student's academic achievement and wellbeing, and the Jackson Public School District is committed to supporting district and community efforts to ensure that scholars in foster care have access to a high quality, stable education.

_____:

_____ is the collaborative process, based on the individual student's unique best interests and involving input from multiple, relevant parties, used for making decisions about whether a student placed in foster care should continue to attend the school of origin.

_____ is the person from Child Protective Services who has been assigned the case of a child in foster care.

_____ is the Mississippi school district in which a school of origin is physically located. For the situation in which an individual school operates as an individual school district, the school will be considered both the school of origin and the district of origin.

_____ is the person designated by the Jackson Public School District Superintendent to represent the District with regards to foster children being enrolled or withdrawn from the District. The District Point of Contact will communicate directly with the Regional Director of Child ("S") care or custody. The District will permit a foster

- Foster family homes;
- Foster homes of relatives;
- Emergency shelters;
- Residential facilities;
- Child care institutions;
- Group homes; and
- Pre adoptive homes.

_____ is a child for whom custody has been appointed to Child Protective Services by _____ authority.

_____ is defined as the parent(s) with whom a foster child is currently residing.

Whether the child is a student with a disability under the IDEA who is receiving special education and related services or a student with a disability under Section 504 who is receiving special education or related aids and services and, if so, the availability of those required services in a school other than the school of origin; and

Whether the child is an English Learner and is receiving language services, and if so, the availability of those required services in a school other than the school of origin, consistent with Title VI and the EEOA.

For general education students a

foster care to their schools of origin. Additionally, Title IV E funds are provided through the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services to aid with reasonable transportation costs that will enable foster care students to attend his or her school of origin.

Multiple factors are utilized in determining reasonable transportation, including costs, distance, and duration, MDCPS has sole authority in determining which cost to include in a child's foster care maintenance payment.

To ensure that foster children have the opportunity to achieve at the same high levels as their peers, the Jackson Public School District will give foster children transferring into the District credit for full and/or partial coursework completed at their school of origin, following the District's policy on transfer credits.

Title I foster care provisions allows data sharing to improve educational outcomes for children. JPSPD recognizes that sensitive student information may be shared by child welfare agencies and commits to ensuring children in foster care are properly supported in a way that respects student privacy. In all cases, JPSPD will comply with all statutory requirements to protect student privacy, including FERPA and any other privacy requirements under Federal, State, or local laws.

DATE: March 9, 2021

LEGAL REF.: Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Foster Connections Act)
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)
Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974 (EEOA).