The Board of Education of the Columbia School District recognizes that migratory students face many educational challenges that may interfere with their ability to succeed in the regular education program and meet the same challenging state achievement standards as other students. The district is committed to creating and supporting a migrant education program (MEP) designed to help migratory students and their families overcome these challenges.

The superintendent or designee will develop an MEP that includes the following components:

1. A written procedure for identifying students who may be migratory that provides for notification to appropriate personnel designated by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) of potentially eligible students.

2. A procedure to help identify and recruit, throughout the school year, those students residing in the district who have family members who have been or are engaged in seasonal or temporary agriculture-related work.

3. Assessment of the educational, health and social needs of each student identified as migratory and development of objectives to address those needs so that migratory students are able to meet Missouri learning standards.

4. Advocacy to allow students and families to gain access to health, nutrition and social services.

5. Review of existing programs and resources to determine which can help meet the needs of migratory children and ensure that the children have access to them.

6. A full range of educational services for migratory students.

7. Instructional programs for migratory students that supplement existing educational programs.

8. An opportunity for meaningful participation in the program by parents/guardians and families of migratory students.
9. A parent advisory committee to consult with district officials and staff in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the program.

10. Professional development for teachers that is designed to improve the quality of education for migratory students, including required training by DESE's Migrant Education and English Language Learning (MELL) program.

11. Provision of information to district personnel about any required participation in professional development provided by DESE's MELL program.

12. Assistance for secondary school students transitioning from school to postsecondary education, employment or military service.

13. Provision of needs assessment, evaluation, financial and other information needed for DESE to carry out its duties.

14. A process for prioritizing the provision of services in order to ensure that if there are limited resources, students most at risk of failing receive services ahead of other students.

Parent and Family Involvement and Engagement

Information about the district's MEP will be disseminated throughout the community and to parents/guardians of students in the program. Parents/Guardians and families will be invited and encouraged to participate in parent/guardian and family involvement and engagement activities developed pursuant to policy IGBC. The district will, whenever possible, communicate with migratory students' parents/guardians who are not proficient in English in a language understandable to the parents/guardians.

Records

The superintendent or designee will maintain and regularly update education and health records of students eligible to receive migrant services, including the date identified, the date approved for services and the services provided. Maintained records will be subject to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The superintendent or designee will also maintain records of all other aspects of the MEP, including teacher training, use of community resources, and program evaluations. Records of parent and family involvement activities, including copies of notices, agendas and meeting minutes, will also be maintained.

The district will provide the results of need assessments, evaluations, financial information and other information as requested by DESE.

Nonpublic Students

The district will provide services to migratory students in nonpublic schools in accordance with law.
Program Evaluation

The superintendent or designee will regularly evaluate the MEP to determine whether the program is meeting the assessed needs of identified migratory students and whether all migratory students have access to the program. Further, the evaluation will determine whether services and resources for migratory students are comparable to the services and resources available to other students in the district.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Columbia Public Schools
Date Adopted: 3/3/1997
Last Revised: 11/12/2018

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

Federal Reference Description

Policy Reference Description
AC PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND RETALIATION
JEC SCHOOL ADMISSIONS
DJFA FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

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Jan Mees
Board of Education President

ATTESTED:
Tracy L. Davenport
Board of Education Secretary