

Series 6000 – Instruction**1. Elementary and Secondary****D. Curriculum****(5) Student Activities****(g) Travel and Exchange Programs**

Foreign Exchange Students Attending Suffield Public Schools

The Suffield Public Schools recognize the value of foreign exchange programs for students. This unique opportunity to experience the culture of another country can be an effective and memorable learning experience for students.

In order to insure that students coming into the Suffield school system from another country as foreign exchange students have a positive experience, the following guidelines have been developed:

1. The Superintendent reserves the right to determine, on an individual basis, if a foreign exchange student may or may not attend public school in Suffield.
2. Advance notice must be provided to the school prior to the approval and finalization of arrangements to accept an exchange student. Exchange organizations sponsoring students must be approved under federal guidelines published by SEVIS (Student Exchange Visa and Immigration Services).
3. The decision to accept a foreign exchange student into Suffield Public Schools shall rest with the building principal who will take into account such factors as space appropriateness of placement, etc.
4. It is understood that foreign exchange students shall not be eligible for a Suffield High School diploma, but may be given a certificate of attendance for the period of time in Suffield and may participate in graduation ceremonies if appropriate.
5. Agencies, groups and/or families sponsoring foreign exchange students in Suffield should submit health and educational records to the school they would like the student to attend as early as possible. These records will be a factor in the decision regarding attendance.
6. The name and telephone number of the sponsoring agency/representative must be on file in the school before the school year begins.
7. All living arrangements for foreign exchange students are the responsibility of the sponsoring agency and families. This includes changes in living arrangements after the student has arrived and throughout his/her stay. Neither the Suffield Board of Education nor any of its employees will assume responsibility in this area.

8. Foreign exchange students are subject to the same academic and behavioral standards as all other students while enrolled in Suffield Schools.
9. The district will provide the most appropriate program available for each foreign exchange student, but should not be expected to offer English as a Second Language services or to make special accommodations that would cause the school to exceed class sizes or teacher loads.

Student Participating in Foreign Exchange Programs

Prior to leaving, any Suffield student planning to attend school in a foreign country as an exchange student must request permission from that school principal to have course work completed in the foreign country approved for transfer credit. The student must work closely with his/her school counselor to determine which courses are eligible for credit from the exchange school to the Suffield Public Schools. The principal of the Suffield school will make the final decision concerning credit transfers and the weight (if any) such courses hold in determining the grade point average.

Students who do not bring a transcript with them at the time they register for their courses upon their return will resume their education at the grade level/graduation requirement status at which they were on their departure.

Policy adopted: April 1, 2008
Policy revised: September 17, 2018

SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Suffield, Connecticut