

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
School District #33 (Chilliwack)**

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**531  
POLICY  
School Admission and Choice**

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1. An education program will be provided for every school age student who is ordinarily resident in British Columbia. A student is resident in British Columbia if the student and the parents or guardians are ordinarily resident in British Columbia. All students must provide an official birth certificate and proof of residency upon registration.
2. The Board may provide for the admission of fee-paying students and non-resident students. The admission procedures contained in this policy and regulation do not apply to fee-paying and non-resident students.
3. Student registration, enrolment and placement in Chilliwack School District is to be guided by the following principles:

**ACCESS TO NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHOOL:**

The Board of Education supports students attending their catchment area school. The admissions process facilitates attendance of catchment area students.

**CHOICE:**

The admission process should maximize the student's and parent's ability to choose the school and educational program which best meets the student's educational needs, subject to the availability of space, programs and resources as determined by the school district.

**CERTAINTY, STABILITY, CONTINUITY:**

The admission process should support certainty, stability and continuity for students and families. Siblings will be admitted to the same school wherever possible, subject to the provisions of the *School Act*, the timelines established by the Board and the wishes of the family.

**EFFICIENT RESOURCE ALLOCATION:**

The admission process should enable school and district staff to plan the allocation of space and instructional resources to best accommodate demand and minimize adjustments required at the beginning of the school year. When a parent or guardian requests that their student attend a school outside their catchment area, the parent or guardian will be expected to assume responsibility for transportation and any other costs associated with this decision.

4. The Board will endeavour to provide programs that meet the interests and needs of district students. The Board may need to provide specialized programs at a limited number of sites to meet the diverse needs and choices of students and their families. The Board is required to manage its resources in a fiscally responsible manner.