



Overview of: Alaska Statutes Authorizing Three Residential Education School Choices through the Department of Education & Early Development

Three Residential School Choices

There are three types of residential opportunities provided for in Alaska Statute Chapter 14 under the Department of Education & Early Development.

- 1) Secondary Boarding Home Stipend Program (AS 14.07.030(2), 4 AAC 09.050)
- 2) School Districts Operating Residential Schools (AS 14.16.200, 4 AAC 33.090). (Year long 180 day term and variable 180 day term)
- 3) Mt. Edgecumbe State Boarding School (AS 14.16.020)

Secondary Boarding Home Stipend Program

- The Secondary Boarding Stipend Program was established in 1966 in order to provide a secondary school education within Alaska for high school students from areas without access to appropriate grade levels. During the 1960's and 1970's the student enrollment in this program was significantly higher than today.
- Currently the Boarding stipend serves approximately 20 students across approximately six districts. Actual usage varies each year. The eligibility includes secondary students who do not have daily access to a school of appropriate grade level.
- The placement process for the secondary boarding program is outlined in regulation Application Instructions. The Application Instructions are available on the department's website under forms. A typical example of this program may be a student from a small community with only one or two high school students and thus the stipend boarding program is used to place the

students with a family in another community within the district for high school. Placement of students outside of their district of residence requires a Memorandum of Agreement.

- The program provides a monthly stipend (rates are \$508 to \$755 a month depending upon region) and are paid for the number of days up to 180 days that the student is receiving services. The program also provides for one round trip transportation and an indirect charge up to the district's federal indirect rate. If the student is placed outside of their home district an additional 30% funding increment for placement supervision may be provided, this is uncommon. The department administers payments on a quarterly basis.
- The annual appropriation is \$185,000, funds are distributed to participating districts. Unspent funds lapse to the general fund.
- This relatively small program serves the state of Alaska by providing an option for students to participate in high school in a neighboring community when an appropriate grade level is not available in their home town.

School Districts Operating Residential Schools, Year Long 180 Day and Variable Term 180 Day Programs

- In 2006 the legislature passed HB 16 which provided funding for statewide residential boarding programs at AS 14.16.200. The initial law included districts that prior to January 1, 2005 were operating a statewide residential program for grades 9 through 12. This included three programs: Galena, Lower Kuskokwim and Nenana. The funding is for the residential component only and is what is referred to as year long 180 days program.
- The department accepted applications from the three qualifying districts and approved a maximum student count for funding for each program. The annual appropriation was set to fund the maximum approved student count.
- Funding includes a per pupil monthly stipend rate set in law for nine months a year, and one round trip transportation reimbursement. The department administers the program through a December 1 count date. Eligibility requires that students are funded if they come from a community outside of the community where the residential school is located.
- After operating under AS 14.16.200 for approximately five years and providing funding to the initial three districts that were in operation when the law was passed, the 2011 legislature in special session passed HB84 which amended the residential program in two ways:
 - A provision was added allowing the Department to request applications and approve, if applicable, up to three additional programs.
 - The stipend rate was increased by doubling the rates in law, for a two year period. The increase was maintained after the two years and an additional increase was passed into law resulting in the current stipend rates.
- Subsequently both the Regulations and Statute (SB47 enacted in 2013) were amended to include variable term programs.

- Variable term programs are approved to fund the same number of students throughout the entire school year, however the actual students housed change to provide sessions of residential instruction to different groups of students.
- The variable term program provides transportation support through one round trip ticket cost per approved bed, to be used to offset actual costs.
- The variable term program may not claim students for foundation funding as the student is claimed in their full time district of residence.
- The monthly rate x 9 months x actual eligible and approved student count = a district's reimbursement for the residential stipend. In addition to the stipend, one round-trip ticket per student, at the least expensive means, between the student's community of residence and the school if the district expends money for the trip.
- The most recent program change was enacted through HB278 effective July 1, 2015 which sets into law an annual period of application; this does not require that new programs be approved. Application program approvals are made contingent on funding of the added programs.

Mt. Edgecumbe is the State of Alaska Boarding School provided for under Alaska Statute 14.16.020

- The MEHS boarding school receives funding through the foundation program in the same manner as other schools in Alaska and the Year Long 180 day residential schools. The residential funding component for MEHS is administered through DEED's budget. This program has been the subject of separate presentations to the committee.

Table 1 presents residential school history including stipend rates, district and program names, year first funded and other information.

Table 2 provides a snapshot of FY2016 programs in process, final accounting is not yet complete.

Table 3 presents FY2015 authorized and actual and includes a breakout of funding for stipends and funding for one round trip travel. Table 2 also includes the authorized detail for FY2016 and FY2017 budgeted.

Attachment A provides a copy of the current statute and regulation.

For your information (S) Education Standing Committee Feb 26 Thursday 3:30 PM 2015 districts presented program information and the handouts and audio remain available on line through the legislative website.

District	School Name	maximum # of students approved	1st year of funding	Statewide/ District-wide	Year-long/ Variable- term	Region
Year-Long Programs						
Anchorage	Dena'ina Academy	4	FY2015	District-wide	year-long	Region 2
Galena	GILA	210	FY2007	Statewide	year-long	Region 5
Lower Kuskokwim	Kuskokwim Learning Academy	35	FY2007	Statewide	year-long	Region 4
Nenana	Nenana Living Center	100	FY2007	Statewide	year-long	Region 3
Variable-Term Programs						
Bering Strait	NACTEC	26	FY2015	Statewide	variable-term	Region 5
Chugach	Voyage to Excellence	24	FY2015	Statewide	variable-term	Region 2
Lower Kuskokwim	Ready Academy	40	FY2016	District-wide	variable-term	Region 4
Variable-Term/Year-Long Programs						
NW Arctic	Star of the Northwest	40	FY2015*	Statewide	variable-term/year-long	Region 5

*start up delayed to FY2016.

		Monthly Rates		
		<u>FY07-FY11</u>	<u>FY12-FY14</u>	<u>FY15</u>
Region 1	Southeast	\$ 410	\$ 820	\$ 1,230
Region 2	Southcentral	\$ 400	\$ 800	\$ 1,200
Region 3	Interior	\$ 484	\$ 968	\$ 1,452
Region 4	Southwest	\$ 503	\$ 1,006	\$ 1,509
Region 5	Northern (Remote)	\$ 592	\$ 1,184	\$ 1,776

Monthly rate x 9 months x actual student count = a district's reimbursement for the residential program

Program Notes

In FY11, SB 84 provided a two-year 2x rate increase for FY12 and FY13.

In FY13 SB 47 repealed the 2x rate increase from SB 84 and set the 2x rate in statute; limit on number of residential schools was removed & statute/regulation language amended to include variable-term schools.

In FY15, HB 278 provided a 1.5x increase in rate and set the rate in statute.

Definitions

Statewide	<i>Students from any district may apply.</i>
District-wide	<i>Only students enrolled in the district in which the program resides may apply.</i>
Year-long	<i>A program that retains students during the school year which is not less than 180 days in session.</i>
Variable-term	<i>A program that rotates students in and out of the program during the school year for the entire school term. 4 AAC 33.090(h)</i>
School term	<i>...at least 900 hours of instruction and study periods...to receive the approximate educational equivalent of a 180-day term. AS 14.03.030(3)</i>

Table 2

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
 Summary Data FY2016 Projected Statewide Residential Program Comparative State Revenues
 February 2016

Prepared by School Finance

Year Long - 180 Day Programs AS 14.16.200

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Galena			
State Aid	210	2,733,296	13,016
State GF Residential Boarding Home	210	3,472,417	16,535
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 29,551

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Lower Kuskokwim			
State Aid	35	604,680	17,277
State GF Residential Boarding Home	35	488,573	13,959
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 31,236

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Nenana			
State Aid	89	1,281,548	14,399
State GF Residential Boarding Home	89	1,224,054	13,753
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 28,152

State Boarding Schools AS 14.16.020

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Mt. Edgecumbe			
State Aid plus State Received Federal Impact Aid	425	4,369,309	10,281
State GF Residential Boarding Home/Facilities Maintenance	425	4,654,800	10,952
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 21,233

Variable Term - 180 Day Programs AS 14.16.200

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Bering Strait			
State Aid - see note 1	-	-	-
State GF Residential Boarding Home	26	427,761	16,452
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 16,452

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Chugach			
State Aid	-	-	-
State GF Residential Boarding Home	24	269,582	11,233
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 11,233

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Lower Kuskokwim			
State Aid	-	-	-
State GF Residential Boarding Home	23	319,753	13,902
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 13,902

Variable Term/Year Long - 180-Day Programs AS 14.16.200

	Residential ADM	Revenues	Residential per ADM
Northwest Arctic			
State Aid	-	-	-
State GF Residential Boarding Home	23	374,670	16,290
Total Support per residential ADM, not including Capital			\$ 16,290

Note 1: Variable-term residential schools are only eligible for the residential stipend, not foundation funding.

Note 2: Anchorage has an approved program for 4 ADM, but reported 0 ADM for FY2016 funding.

Table 3

The Department of Education & Early Development
 Residential and Boarding Stipend Allocation: Boarding Home Grants
 February 2016

Prepared by School Finance

Residential Schools Districts	FY2015		FY2016		FY2017	
	Authorized	Actual	Authorized	Actual	Authorized	Actual
Anchorage						
Maximum Funded Students	4	-	4	-	4	-
Monthly Rate	\$1,200	1,200	\$1,200	1,200	\$1,200	1,200
Travel	2,400	-	2,400	-	2,400	-
Stipends	43,200	-	43,200	-	43,200	-
Total	45,600	-	45,600	-	45,600	-
Bering Strait						
Maximum Funded Students	26	20	26	20	26	20
Monthly Rate	1,776	1,776	1,776	1,776	1,776	1,776
Travel	15,600	9,405	15,600	9,405	15,600	9,405
Stipends	415,584	319,680	415,584	319,680	415,584	319,680
Total	431,184	329,085	431,184	329,085	431,184	329,085
Chugach						
Approved program capacity, students	24	21	24	21	24	21
Monthly Rate	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Travel	14,400	5,864	14,400	5,864	14,400	5,864
Stipends	259,200	226,800	259,200	226,800	259,200	226,800
Total	273,600	232,664	273,600	232,664	273,600	232,664
Galena						
Approved program capacity, students	210	207	210	207	210	207
Monthly Rate	1,776	1,776	1,776	1,776	1,776	1,776
Travel	160,434	138,483	160,434	138,483	160,434	138,483
Stipends	3,356,640	3,308,688	3,356,640	3,308,688	3,356,640	3,308,688
Total	3,517,074	3,447,171	3,517,074	3,447,171	3,517,074	3,447,171
Lower Kuskokwim						
Approved program capacity, students	35	34	75	34	75	34
Monthly Rate	1,509	1,509	1,509	1,509	1,509	1,509
Travel	18,041	10,227	42,041	10,227	42,041	10,227
Stipends	475,335	461,754	1,018,575	461,754	1,018,575	461,754
Total	493,376	471,981	1,060,616	471,981	1,060,616	471,981
Nenana						
Approved program capacity, students	88	88	100	88	100	88
Monthly Rate	1,452	1,452	1,452	1,452	1,452	1,452
Travel	63,772	77,707	75,772	77,707	75,772	77,707
Stipends	1,149,984	1,149,984	1,306,800	1,149,984	1,306,800	1,149,984
Total	1,213,756	1,227,691	1,382,572	1,227,691	1,382,572	1,227,691
Northwest Arctic (Note 1)						
Approved program capacity, students	40	-	40	-	40	-
Maximum Funded Students	40	-	40	-	40	-
Monthly Rate	1,776	-	1,776	-	1,776	-
Travel	160,434	-	160,434	-	160,434	-
Stipends	639,360	-	639,360	-	639,360	-
Total	799,794	-	799,794	-	799,794	-
Residential School Totals	427	6,774,384	370	5,708,592	479	\$7,510,440
Boarding Home Stipend Totals		185,900		\$29,988		185,900
Total		\$6,960,284		\$5,738,580		\$7,696,340
			Difference	1,221,704		

Note 1: NWArctic program was approved/authorized starting in FY2015; due to construction the school opened in FY2016.

Note 2: Districts participating in boarding stipend FY2015/2016 stipend Dillingham, SW Region, Lake/Penn

Secondary Boarding Home Stipend

Statute

ALASKA STATUTE

Chapter 14.07 ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sec. 14.07.030(2). Powers of the department.

The department may

- (1) establish, maintain, govern, operate, discontinue, and combine area, regional, and special schools;
- (2) enter into contractual agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs or with a school district to share boarding costs of secondary school students;

Secondary Boarding Home Stipend

Regulation

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 09.050. Secondary boarding programs

(a) The governing body of a district shall make available, at no cost to the student or the student's parent, a basic boarding program to all secondary school age children in the district who do not have daily access to a school of the appropriate grade level by being transported a reasonable distance. The following rules apply:

(1) A basic boarding program must provide for each student

(A) suitable living accommodations, including room and board and supervision while the student is not in school, which satisfy the applicable requirements of state law and regulations;

(B) round-trip transportation to and from the student's usual home; and

(C) daily access to a school offering the appropriate grade level.

(2) Students in a basic boarding program must be placed in accordance with their best interests, taking into account special educational needs.

(3) To qualify for funding by the Department of Education and Early Development, a district's basic boarding program must satisfy the requirements of (1) and (2) of this subsection. Applications for funding must contain the following:

(A) the name, village and grade level of each student;

(B) the location of each student's boarding placement; and

(C) a budget showing transportation, room and board, and out-of-school supervision costs.

(4) Direct costs that may be claimed for reimbursement under this section are:

(A) those associated with one annual round trip between the community of residence and the school location;

(B) a room and board stipend during the school year; and

Secondary Boarding Home Stipend

Regulation cont.

(C) up to 30 percent of the stipend amount for out-of-school supervision of students at locations outside the school district of residence.

(5) Administrative and out-of-school supervision costs for pupils attending schools within their school district of residence are the responsibility of the school district.

(6) Indirect costs may be claimed against approved expenditures based upon the Department of Education and Early Development annual approved indirect cost rate.

(7) The commissioner will review and adjust stipend rates annually, based upon information prepared by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service, and the U.S. Department of Labor Consumer Price Index for the Anchorage area. The commissioner will notify school districts of final rates, and the information upon which adjustments were based, by August 15 of the school year to which they apply.

(8) If claims for reimbursement under this section exceed the amount appropriated for that purpose, the commissioner will deny reimbursement of administrative costs, reduce or deny costs associated with student supervision, and prorate student stipends based upon days served, in that order.

(b) No student may be suspended or expelled from a boarding program without due process of law.

School Districts Operating Residential Schools

Statute

ALASKA STATUTE

Chapter 14.16 SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Sec. 14.16.100 Application for residential school.

A school district shall apply to the department for approval to establish and operate a statewide or district-wide residential school. The department shall accept applications during an open application period conducted annually. A period of open application in itself does not indicate that the department will approve the establishment of a new residential school.

Sec. 14.16.200. State funding for districts operating residential schools.

(a) A district that operates a statewide or district-wide residential school for students in grades nine through 12 that has been approved by the department under regulations adopted by the board is eligible to receive a boarding stipend as reimbursement for the costs incurred by the district in operating that school. To be eligible for reimbursement for costs, a statewide or district-wide residential school operated by a district must provide a suitable student dormitory, food service, and daily access to a public school offering the appropriate grade level for a variable-length or 180-day school term as provided under [AS 14.03.030](#) for the full school year.

(b) Costs that may be claimed by a district for reimbursement under (a) of this section are

(1) one round trip on the least expensive means of transportation between the student's community of residence and the school during the school year if the district expends money for the trip; and

(2) a per-pupil monthly stipend to cover room and board expenses as determined by the department on a regional basis and not to exceed the following amounts:

- (A) for the Southeast Region (Region I), \$1,230;
- (B) for the Southcentral Region (Region II), \$1,200;
- (C) for the Interior Region (Region III), \$1,452;
- (D) for the Southwest Region (Region IV), \$1,509;
- (E) for the Northern Remote Region (Region V), \$1,776.

School Districts Operating Residential Schools

Statute cont.

(c) *[Repealed, Sec. 4 ch 48 SLA 2013].*

(d) A district may cooperate with an Alaska Native organization, as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7546(2), or a nonprofit organization for the provision of room and board services to students enrolled in a statewide or district-wide residential school operated by a district under terms and conditions required for licensing in the state and as specified by the department in regulation.

(e) In this section, "district" has the meaning given in [AS 14.17.990](#).

School Districts Operating Residential Schools

Regulation

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 33.090. District-operated statewide and district-wide residential schools

(a) A district must obtain approval from the department before operating a statewide or district-wide residential school. A district may apply to establish and operate a new school only during a period of open applications established by the department under (c) of this section.

Applications must include

(1) designation of the facilities that will house the residential school, including any proposal to build or renovate a facility, and the revenue sources that will support the construction or renovation;

(2) a five-year budget for the operation of the residential component of the school; the budget must specify the revenue sources that will support the proposed budget, including a provision for charging student tuition;

(3) a tuition waiver policy for families that can demonstrate financial hardship, including a definition of "hardship";

(4) an enrollment and selection policy for students applying to attend the residential school;

(5) a list of course offerings;

(6) a plan to assist students in crisis; and

(7) a staffing plan for the school.

(b) The department may require that a district supplement its application with additional information. The department may require a district to change its policies or proposed practices before approving an application. A district must operate the residential school in conformance with its approved application. A district that wishes to change any of the requirements of an approved application must submit a revised application. In determining whether to grant or deny an application, the department will consider

(1) whether the community in which the school is located has sufficient infrastructure to support the residential school;

(2) demand, current capacity, and regional needs for residential schools;

(3) the cost to provide a residential school in the applying district;

School Districts Operating Residential Schools

Regulation cont.

(4) the district's ability to offer a high-quality academic program to students;

(5) the health and welfare of students housed in the residential school, including the ability of the district to offer a high-quality residential school;

(6) for a revised application, whether the school has complied with the policies and practices that the district identified in its current application; and

(7) the public interest.

(c) The department will open a period of application annually on May 1. The application period will close on June 30. The department may require that applications be targeted to provide a particular program to meet specific needs of students in the state. A period of open application and solicitation does not imply that the department will approve the establishment of any new schools.

(1) demand for residential schools, including the demand and needs in different regions of the state;

(2) capacity of existing schools; and

(3) public interest.

(d) This section does not prevent a governing body from establishing an in-district residential school that is not eligible for state support for the operation of the residential aspects of the school.

(e) A district that operates an approved statewide or district-wide residential school shall submit an annual report to the department. The report must include the

(1) number of applications received by the school;

(2) number of students accepted into the school;

(3) students' communities and districts of residence at the time of application for enrollment;

(4) students' academic achievement results;

(5) date of, reason for, and number of withdrawals from the school during the school year;

School Districts Operating Residential Schools

Regulation cont.

- (6) number of expulsions from the school during the school year;
- (7) number of students receiving a tuition waiver; and
- (8) other information requested by the department with respect to the school.

(f) On December 1 of each school year, a district that operates an approved statewide or district-wide residential school shall submit to the department an application, on a form provided by the department, for payment of a stipend under [AS 14.16.200\(b\)\(2\)](#). The district is eligible for payment of the lesser of actual cost to house the student or the amount allowed in [AS 14.16.200\(b\)\(2\)](#) for each residential student who is housed by the district on the last day of the student count period under [AS 14.17.600](#), and whose parents or guardians do not reside in the community in which the school is located. If appropriations are insufficient for the residential component of approved statewide or district-wide residential schools, the department will reduce each district's entitlement by a pro rata amount as determined by the department.

(g) The department may withdraw its approval for a district to operate a statewide or district-wide residential school if the department determines that continued operation of the school is not in the public interest. In making this determination, the department will consider

(1) the health and safety of the students in the residential school;

(2) whether students at the school have demonstrated sufficient academic achievement; in making this determination, the department will consider all evidence of student academic achievement and improvement, including evidence of

(A) students' scores and improvement of students' scores on statewide student assessments under [4 AAC 06.710](#); and

(B) the program's record of demonstrating progress in accordance with [4 AAC 06.800](#) - [4 AAC 06.899](#) (school and district accountability) and the reasons for its success or failure to demonstrate progress;

(3) the demand for the school;

(4) the cost of operating the school;

(5) whether the school has complied with the policies and practices that the district identified in its application; and

(6) the existence of alternative methods of meeting the needs of students.

School Districts Operating Residential Schools

Regulation cont.

(h) A district may apply during a period of open application under (c) of this section for approval to operate a variable-term statewide or district-wide residential school that will house students for the entire school calendar. The minimum term for each student must be at least two weeks. A variable-term school is eligible for reimbursement for a monthly stipend for up to nine months of the school year under (f) of this section for the number of students that it housed on the last day of the student count period under AS 14.17.600 if the district will continue to house at least the same number of students throughout the entire school term. Upon the written request of a school district, the commissioner may permit a district to report the number of students it housed on a date other than the last day of the student count period if the date is within the count period set out in AS 14.17.600 and the date more accurately reflects the numbers of students the district will house throughout the school term. A variable-term school is eligible for a one-time air fare reimbursement under AS 14.16.200 (b)(1) for the number of students housed by the school on the last day of the student count period, based on the average cost of round-trip air fare for all statewide or district-wide residential schools. A district may not include students housed by a variable-term school in the school's student count submitted to the department for foundation funding under AS 14.17; a student being housed by a variable-term school during the student count period may be included in the count of the student's district of residence. In this subsection, "variable-term statewide or district-wide residential school" means a statewide or district-wide residential school that rotates students in and out of the school during the school year for the entire school term as defined under AS 14.03.030.

History: Eff. 10/22/2006, Register 180; am 6/8/2013, Register 206; am 10/16/2013, Register 208; am 2/21/2014, Register 209; am 3/6/2015, Register 213

Mt. Edgecumbe State Boarding School

Statute

ALASKA STATUTE

Chapter 14.16 SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Sec. 14.16.020. Operation of state boarding schools.

In the management of state boarding schools, the board shall

- (1) adopt a philosophy of education for state boarding schools;
- (2) approve the employment of personnel necessary to operate state boarding schools;
- (3) establish the salaries and benefits to be paid teachers, excluding administrators;
- (4) designate the employees authorized to direct disbursements from the money appropriated for the operation of state boarding schools and for the construction of facilities;
- (5) provide custodial services and routine maintenance of physical facilities;
- (6) establish procedures for the development and implementation of curriculum and the selection and use of textbooks and instructional materials;
- (7) prescribe health evaluation and placement screening programs for newly admitted students;
- (8) establish procedures for staff evaluation; and
- (9) establish procedures for providing the training under [AS 14.18.060](#), [AS 14.20.149](#), [14.20.680](#), [AS 14.30.362](#), [AS 14.33.100](#), [14.33.127](#), [AS 18.66.310](#), and [AS 47.17.022](#); the procedures established under this paragraph must include a training schedule that ensures that not less than 50 percent of the total certificated staff employed at a school receives all of the training not less than every two years and that all of the certificated staff employed at each school receives all of the training not less than every four years.

Mt. Edgecumbe State Boarding School

Regulation

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 33.080. Admission to Mount Edgecumbe High School

(a) The superintendent of Mount Edgecumbe High School shall appoint an admissions committee of at least three persons to make recommendations for students to be admitted to the school.

(b) A student residing in any school district in the state may submit to the admissions committee an application for admission to Mount Edgecumbe High School, on forms prescribed by the department, at the following address: Mount Edgecumbe High School, Admissions Committee, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, 1330 Seward Avenue, Sitka, Alaska 99835.

(c) An application under (b) of this section must include statements by the student and the student's parent or guardian explaining why admission is sought and why the student should be accepted, a copy of the student's school records, including attendance records, transcripts, and achievement test results, at least two recommendations from teachers or other adults who are not members of the student's family and who know the student well, and such other information as the admissions committee requests.

(d) The number of available openings at each grade level shall be established by the superintendent in advance of each semester, based upon the school's capacity, the number of returning students, and other relevant factors.

(e) The admissions committee shall recommend students for the available openings from among the applicants, and the superintendent shall make the final admissions decisions, based upon consideration of the following factors:

(1) the availability of a high school program in the student's home community adequate to meet the academic and social needs of the student;

(2) the degree to which the student is expected to benefit from the academic and social program at Mount Edgecumbe High School;

(3) the degree to which the student will bring background experiences, skills, and abilities that will enhance the diversity or academic potential of the student body;

(4) any particular school, family, or social situations that make the structured, residential setting of Mount Edgecumbe High School especially advisable for the student.

Mt. Edgecumbe State Boarding School

Regulation cont.

- (f) Preference shall be given to students whose educational, emotional, or family requirements warrant attendance in a domiciliary environment.
- (g) The admissions committee and superintendent may not discriminate in favor of or against any resident based on race, sex, creed, national origin, or location or type of residence in the state.
- (h) Admissions at mid-semester may be made only upon consideration of the effects of transfer on the continuity of the student's education and on the Mount Edgecumbe High School program.
- (i) Once admitted, a student may continue to attend Mount Edgecumbe High School from semester to semester until the student graduates, so long as the student remains in good standing under school rules governing academic and social performance.