Nonresident Student Policy & Application

The Commerce City Board of Education appreciates the positive contributions nonresident students have made and will continue to make to the overall success of the system. The Board desires to continue enrolling out-of-district students in a fashion that will facilitate a quality instructional program for all its pupils. In keeping with this objective, the following policy is adopted.

Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, the Commerce City School System will begin charging a $150 tuition per student for nonresident students who attend a Commerce City School in grades K through 8. Nonresident students who are enrolled at the end of the 2019-2020 school year will be grandfathered in and allowed to continue attending a Commerce City School without paying tuition, provided their enrollment remains continuous. Any such student who withdraws and subsequently wishes to reenter will be subject to paying tuition.

1. Any student whose parents or legal guardian(s) are bona fide residents of the City of Commerce shall be admitted provided said student is otherwise eligible for enrollment and is not under expulsion or long term suspension from the school last attended.

2. Out-of-district students whose parents are employees of the Commerce City Board of Education shall be exempt from tuition payment as long as their parents are employed by the Board.

3. Students whose parents or legal guardian(s) are not bona fide residents of the City of Commerce may attend a Commerce School under the following conditions:

   Said student is in good standing with the school previously attended, having demonstrated consistently good and punctual attendance, satisfactory discipline and the readiness/qualifications for the grade/program in which they are seeking enrollment. Students who have withdrawn from previously attended schools to avoid any form of disciplinary action may not enroll in the Commerce City School District. Students withdrawing for poor attendance, excessive tardiness, or unsatisfactory academic performance may not enroll in a Commerce City School.

4. The Commerce City Board of Education reserves the right to establish enrollment limits in all grades, classes, and or/programs. Nonresident enrollment will not be available when such will cause the number of students to exceed 85% of the limit established by the State Board of Education for each grade and 75% of the limit established by the Board for each program.

5. In accordance with Georgia law, the Commerce City Board of Education is authorized to levy tuition for nonresident students. When required, payment shall be made according to Board approved guidelines.

6. When considering the admission of nonresident students, the first and foremost priority of the Commerce City Board of Education is the potential for academic success as exhibited by transcripts, standardized testing results and/or performance on placement tests administered by the Commerce City School System. Other areas to consider include:

   a. Number and status of currently enrolled nonresident students;

   b. Siblings of currently enrolled nonresident students;
c. Children of alumni of the Commerce City School System;

d. Children of employees of the City of Commerce;

e. Earlier date and time of application;

f. Children whose parents or legal guardians pay ad valorem tax to the City of Commerce.

7. Transportation for nonresident students will be the responsibility of the parents or legal guardian(s).

8. When a student’s parents or legal guardian(s) relocate from the City of Commerce address to an out-of-district residency, that student must comply with this policy once non-residency has been established.

9. This policy shall no longer be in effect when a nonresident student’s parents or legal guardian(s) relocate to a City of Commerce address. In cases where tuition has been paid, the parent or legal guardian will receive a pro rata refund.

10. Nonresident students seeking to enroll in the Commerce City School System must complete an APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION OF NONRESIDENT STUDENT. Applications for the following school year will not be accepted prior to spring kindergarten registration. Applications must be filed with the Principal of the School in which the student is applying. In addition, the student and parents or legal guardian(s) must sign a copy of this policy acknowledging that they are aware that a nonresident student is admitted based upon the student’s good behavior and willingness to perform the academic assignments required of all students. The student’s parents or legal guardian(s) agree to cooperate and participate in conferences involving their child and will endeavor to motivate their child to behave and achieve academically. If the student’s behavior, attendance, punctuality, efforts to achieve and/or grades deteriorate, or if falsification and/or misrepresentation of information occur during the application process, the Principal of the school in which the student is assigned may remove the student at any time during the grading period or semester without convening a disciplinary tribunal.

11. For nonresident students, attending school in the Commerce City School System is a privilege, not a right. Nonresident students may be removed from the Commerce City Schools without convening a disciplinary tribunal for any of the following reasons:

a. Unacceptable behavior;

b. Unacceptable attendance;

c. Lack of effort and/or poor academic performance;

d. Falsification and/or misrepresentation of information during application process;

e. Failure to pay tuition in accordance with district guidelines;

f. Other good and sufficient cause.

Parent/Guardian Signature:__________________________________________

Date:___________________________________________________________