

Stoughton Public Schools Stoughton, Massachusetts

Residency Policy

It is the policy of the Stoughton School Committee that proof of residence must be established by the student and/or his/her parent/guardian in accordance with the following criteria:

New residents will be required to submit two or more of the following as proof of residence:

1. A deed or lease agreement for property in Stoughton
2. A mortgage statement verifying the owner's name and address
3. A rent receipt which includes the name and address of the landlord
4. A residential utility and/or telephone statement
5. Other pertinent information as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent of Schools

Students living with persons other than their parents/guardians will be required to have the persons they are living with submit the following as proof of residence:

1. Court documentation of guardianship;
2. Documentation that the student is maintaining permanent residency with the person(s) indicated at the given address;
3. Students with unusual circumstances may appeal to the School Committee and all decisions are final.

Students whose residency changes within the community are also required to show proof of residence.

The School Department reserves the right to confirm actual living arrangements by home visits. The purpose of such visits will be to determine whether or not the student/family resides at the indicated address. The parent/guardian will be asked to sign the **Residency Statement** detailed within this policy.

In addition, any person who falsely claims that a student lives with them, or the parents of that student, will be required to pay the full cost of the student's tuition to the Stoughton Public Schools for the period of their enrollment, as well as any necessary legal fees. In addition to incurring civil liabilities, any person who knowingly registers or attempts to register a student known by that person to be in violation of the residency requirement will (or may) be referred to the proper agency for criminal prosecution.

The School Committee has divided the elementary school attendance areas by geography. During the 2006-2007 school year, it is necessary for out-of-district students to attend the neighborhood school within their district.

An anonymous Residency Tip Line is available for families, staff and students to report possible residency violations. (781-297-1050) People may also report residency violations to: the building Principal, Central Administration, Administrator of Special Education and Athletic Director. Each of these individuals will be responsible for reporting the alleged violation, in writing, to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will inform the School Committee, in writing, of all violations.

Southeastern Regional Technical High School, Norfolk County Agricultural School and the Foxboro Charter School will be notified upon adoption of Residency Policy, as well as receive any future updates/revisions.

This Residency Policy will be included in all Parent/Student Handbooks, as well as distributed to all parents/guardians upon registering a new student in the Stoughton Public Schools.

Adopted by the School Committee: May 22, 2007