

ADMISSION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Foreign exchange students are encouraged and welcome to attend the Granton Area School District. The foreign exchange program is created to facilitate mutual friendship and understanding between students and visiting foreign students, and to be of mutual benefits to the School District, Granton students, and families.

I. Statement of Objectives

- a. To assist in the promotion of worldwide understanding.
- b. To further the appreciation of our democratic system of government.
- c. To provide for better understanding of other educational systems.
- d. To better an understanding of our economic system.
- e. To develop a greater appreciation of family life by living with a family from a different country.
- f. To provide a sound educational program for the participant.
- g. To stimulate a greater interest in international relations.
- h. To stimulate an interest in studying the languages of different peoples of the world.
- i. To develop cultural ties with peoples of the world.
- j. To develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of people in other cultures.
- k. To develop more self-understanding and maturity as a result of a broader cultural frame of reference.

II. Admission Criteria

- a. Only students sponsored by recognized exchange programs according to CSIET (Council on Standards for International Educational Travel) will be considered for enrollment.
- b. The sponsoring organization must have a local representative that resides within the Granton Area School District boundaries that will regularly visit the school and host family.
- c. All applicants for enrollment shall be reviewed and approved by the principal by the regularly scheduled July school board meeting. Before placing a student in a district school, the local area representative and host family must meet with the building principal or his/her designee.
- d. The following documents must be on file in the principal's office prior to the first day of attendance:
 1. Immigration service/visa documents.
 2. Immigration record with all mandated requirements for school attendance.
 3. Information regarding any health concerns applicable to the exchange student.
 4. Copy of progress records from the exchange student's home school.
 5. Other credentials customarily provided by the sponsoring organization, including documentation that the student is English proficient.
 6. Evidence of health and accident insurance coverage with a company affiliated with a United States underwriter.
- e. High school enrollment is limited to two (2) exchange students; amounts higher than two (2) require board approval. The District reserves the right to regulate the number of participating students for each country for the purpose of having a variety of countries represented.

III. Enrollment, Participation, & Academic Criteria

- a. Enrollment is a privilege, which will be subject to review for satisfactory performance.
- b. Exchange students shall be required to enroll in classes as full-time students.
- c. In order to learn more about America, exchange students shall enroll in one (1) year of U.S. History, or a reasonable alternative that is pre-approved by the building principal.
- d. Ordinarily, exchange students will be members of the class that reflect their chronological age.
- e. Exchange students will receive a "Certificate of Attendance" and an official transcript of work done at the high school.
- f. Exchange students will not be included in class rank, class statistics, and will not be eligible for academic honors, National Honor Society, or scholarships other than being listed on the honor roll. School groups may make exchange students honorary members if they elect to do so.
- g. Exchange students may be recognized at annual awards programs and may participate in commencement ceremonies if they wish.
- h. While regular attendance is required, exchange students are encouraged and invited to visit other schools and classes, accompany their host family on cultural outings, or to present their culture background to other groups.
- i. The School District will provide free transportation to and from school as provided for all resident students that meet the criteria for pick up/drop off.
- j. Exchange students are eligible to participate in all school co-curricular activities. Interscholastic athletic eligibility is subject to the rules of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA). The District Athletic Director is responsible for determining the eligibility of exchange students to participate in interscholastic activities.

IV. Host Family Criteria

- a. Preference will be given to host families who have other students enrolled in the host school. In all cases, the host family must be District residents and have direct access to the school where the foreign exchange student will attend.
- b. The host family must be willing to participate and provided transportation to and from school activities, as well as other social events for their student.
- c. The host family agrees to cooperate with school officials and the local area coordinator to resolve problems that may arise with the exchange students.

V. Sponsoring Organization & Local Area Representative Criteria

- a. Have stated educational goals that are compatible with those of the Granton Area School District.
- b. Select participants (host families and students) on the basis of clear criteria and careful screening to ensure the likelihood of a successful experience for all involved.
- c. Communicate regularly with the host school, host family, and exchange student to assess the progress of the student.
- d. Provide the school with all required documents and information relevant to the exchange student's visit, including arrival and departure dates.
- e. Manage all immigration needs for the exchange student(s) and coordinate all records and correspondence between the host and home school.
- f. It is the responsibility of the area representative to arrange for tutoring services, if needed, before the start of the school year.

- g. The area representative will meet with the administrator or designee and host family at the time of registration.

The Granton Area School District reserves the right to terminate the enrollment of any foreign exchange student who does not adequately observe the rights and responsibilities of the students of the Granton Area School District.

Adopted: October 9, 2006
Revised: April 14, 2008; April 14, 2014, March 8, 2021

Legal
References: