

ACCREDITED BY



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FY 2024

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY REGARDING THE ENROLLMENT OF FOSTER CARE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Dale County School System will make school placement decisions in the “best interest” of the foster care child or youth. Foster Care children or youth may remain in their school of origin unless it is determined to be in their best interest to change schools.

Foster Care students may enroll in any public school that non-foster care students who live in the attendance area in which the students reside are actually eligible to attend.

If the school enrollment decision is contrary to the wishes of the child or youth’s parent/guardian, the school will provide that parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of the decision, and a statement of the right to appeal.

1. The complainant must file a School Enrollment Dispute Form with the school in which the student is presently enrolled.
2. The principal of this school will notify Dale County Schools Foster Care Liaison of the dispute and take steps to resolve the dispute.
3. When a dispute arises regarding school placement, the system will immediately enroll the Foster Care student in the school in which enrollment is sought by the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth, pending resolution of the dispute. Dale County Schools Foster Care Liaison will expeditiously take steps to resolve the dispute (See the District Enrollment Dispute Form). If the dispute cannot be settled by the Foster Care Liaison, the Liaison will assist the complainant in seeking technical assistance from the State Department of Education.

**REFERENCE(S):**

**CODE OF ALABAMA**

**16-11-9, 16-12-3, 16-30-1, 16-30-3, 16-30-4, AAC §290-3-1-.02 EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT OF 2015, TITLE VII-B OF THE MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001 (42 USC 11431 ET SEQ.) Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015**