



Normandy Transfer Frequently Asked Questions Update October 25, 2013

Background

At the October 24, 2013, meeting of the Normandy School District Board of Education, the Board voted not to pay the bill for student transfers (http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/education/normandy-school-board-votes-against-paying-bill-for-transfers/article_f53af6e4-1c9f-50d9-94a0-f75b6de8c78b.html). Below are responses to a few questions that have been asked as a result of this decision.

Throughout the transfer process, the Francis Howell School District (FHSD) has followed state law (§167.131, RSMo), the Missouri Supreme Court ruling on the law, and the guidance provided by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). This guidance may be referred to in various answers to the questions below. The guidance document can be viewed at the following web link: http://dese.mo.gov/documents/Transfer_Guidance.pdf

How will the decision of the Normandy Board of Education to not make payments affect Francis Howell financially?

The decision of the Normandy's Board should not impact FHSD financially. FHSD has not spent more money than it has received from Normandy. FHSD will continue to rely on the commitment made by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). That commitment was

"... to intercept the state aid payments from the sending district [Normandy] and divert those funds to the receiving district [FHSD] in order to avoid a situation of unreimbursed expenses."

Why didn't Francis Howell ask for the tuition payments up front?

DESE guidance stipulates that receiving districts may only bill for actual days students are in attendance; therefore, bills are sent for the previous month.

What will the impact be for transfer students currently attending Francis Howell?

At this time, FHSD plans to continue to follow DESE guidance, which states that students should be allowed to attend through the end of the current school year. In return, DESE has committed:

"... to intercept the state aid payments from the sending district [Normandy] and divert those funds to the receiving district [FHSD] in order to avoid a situation of unreimbursed expenses."

Did Francis Howell know that Normandy's Board of Education would be taking this action prior to it being announced on Thursday, October 24, 2013?

No. While Francis Howell has been working cooperatively and collaboratively with Normandy throughout this process, neither the superintendent nor Francis Howell Board of Education had no prior knowledge of this decision.