

Public Education Grant Program Notification

January 28, 2013

Dear Parents:

I am required to send this notice to inform you that Dell City School has been identified under the Public Education Grant Program (PEG) for students being eligible to transfer to another school because of TAKS testing results. Under the Public Education Grant (PEG) interdistrict transfer provision, a parent of a student enrolled at Dell City School may apply to attend a campus in any other school district for the 2013-2014 school year. A school district chosen by a student's parent under this statute is entitled to accept or reject the application for the student to attend school in that district but may not use criteria that discriminate on the basis of a student's race, ethnicity, academic achievement, athletic abilities, language proficiency, sex, or socioeconomic status.

Eligibility to transfer to another school district under this provision was determined by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). Dell City School remains on the PEG list because 50% or less of the students passed the Math state assessment exam in 2009-2010 and the campus was rated Academically Unacceptable in 2010-2011. The state did not issue accountability ratings for the 2011-2012 school year because of the new STAAR and End of Course state assessments. Dell City ISD is making great strides in creating a successful learning environment through prescriptive tutorials, focused teaching objectives and student data analysis.

Frequently asked questions and answers are provided below to better clarify the PEG provision.

The complete FAQ can be found at: http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/peg_faq.html

Q: What is the PEG program?

A: In 1995, the Texas Legislature created the Public Education Grant (PEG) program [TEC §§29.201 - 29.205]. The PEG program permits parents whose children attend schools on the PEG list to request that their children transfer to schools in other districts. A list of PEG-designated schools is provided to districts annually. By February 1, districts must notify each parent of a student in the district assigned to attend a school on the PEG list. Based on the February list, parents may request a transfer for the following school year. (For example, the list provided to parents by February 1, 2013 allows for transfer requests for the 2013-14 school year.)

Identification

Q: Why does a school appear on the PEG list?

A: A school at which 50 percent or more of the students did not pass any of the TAKS/STAAR* subjects in any two of the preceding three years (2012, 2011, or 2010), or a school that was rated *Academically Unacceptable* in 2011 or 2010, is included on the PEG List.

Q: How can a *Recognized* or *Exemplary* school be on the PEG list?

A: A school can remain on the PEG list for up to three years, even if their subsequent ratings are *Recognized* or *Exemplary*.

Transfers

Q: How does a parent obtain a transfer?

A: The parent obtains a transfer by contacting the district the student wants to transfer to, in writing. Either the PEG notification letter from the home district or the [PEG List](#) provide adequate justification for the transfer request.

Q: Can a PEG-listed school deny a student the right to request a transfer to another district's school?

A: No. The purpose of the letter the PEG-listed school sends every parent is to alert them that they can request a transfer under the PEG program.

Q: Must a district accept all students who request to transfer into it under the PEG program?

A: No, but districts must follow the same protocols they follow for evaluating non-PEG requests for transfers from other districts. For example, they may restrict transfers by using a first-come-first-served system, and deny further requests for lack of space.

Q: Does the ability to transfer last the duration of the 2013-14 school year?

A: Yes. Parents may request a transfer under the PEG program any time during the 2013-14 school year.

Q: Can students transfer before the beginning of the upcoming school year, once the PEG list is published in February?

A: No. Since the list refers to the upcoming school year, PEG-funded transfers are not allowed until the designated school year begins.

Q: Can a student transfer from one PEG-listed campus to another PEG-listed campus under the PEG program?

A: No. Under the PEG program criteria, a student may not transfer from a PEG-identified campus to another PEG-identified campus under the PEG program. However, district-to-district transfers exist outside of the PEG program, and can begin, end, or continue regardless of the PEG status of the schools.

Transportation

Q: Are districts responsible for providing transportation to the school the student transfers to, if the school is in another district?

A: No, districts are not required to provide transportation for students who transfer to another district under the PEG program.

According to TEC 29.203 (f):

The school district in which a student resides shall provide each student attending a school in another district under this subchapter transportation free of charge to and from the school the student would otherwise attend.

The phrase, “to and from the school the student would otherwise attend” means that the district is not required to provide transportation beyond what it would normally provide—to and from the students’ homes and their regularly assigned schools.

Questions concerning the Public Education Grant (PEG) should be directed to Tanya Lewis at (915) 964-2663.