501.3.1 School Choice

1. Students within the boundaries of Lethbridge School District No. 51 may apply to register at a school that is outside their normal attendance area. Students who reside outside of Lethbridge may apply to attend a school within Lethbridge School District No. 51. Such applications may be approved by the principal in accordance with Policy 501.3.1. A copy of the relevant “Out-Of-Boundary Application for Admission” Forms (forms 501.3.1, 503.3, form 501.3.4) shall be sent to the home school.

2. District students wishing to transfer to a school outside their normal attendance area will be required to apply to attend that school for the following year.
   2.1. The principal of the receiving school shall contact the principal of the home school before accepting a student transferring from a District school under the terms of this policy.
   2.2. No transfers under this policy shall be made during a school year except when there is mutual agreement between the principals of the two schools involved that some educational advantage will accrue to the child.

3. District students who move outside of their original attendance area or whose school boundaries change such that they are no longer within the school’s boundaries will be required to apply to remain in their current school. The “Out-Of-Boundary Application for Admission” form is to be submitted to the school for approval.

4. Principals may work with parents to address situations where a student’s address changes mid-year or mid-semester and wish to remain in their school until a natural transition point (ie. end of semester, reporting session, or school year). This special allowance does not guarantee enrollment in that school for the following school year.

5. Entrance into programs of choice (ie. French Immersion or Montessori) generally take place at the beginning of kindergarten or grade one. Entrance into these programs at other times is at the discretion of the principal and will take into consideration the student’s background and the continuity of the program.

6. Applications for a student to attend a school outside their normal attendance area are handled on a case-by-case basis. The fact that a sibling has been accepted into a school outside their normal attendance area does not automatically mean that other siblings will also be accepted to attend that school.