



Meeting Date: _____

Best Interest Determination Form (Foster Care)

Student's Name: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Student ID: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Current School/District: [Click here to enter text.](#) Current Grade: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Determination:

The student shall remain in the school in which the student was enrolled at the time of placement.

Name of School: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Based on the best interest determination, a change in school placement is needed. The student will be immediately enrolled in the school of current residence.

Name of School: [Click here to enter text.](#)

The student shall remain in the school they were attending at the time of placement unless the responses to the following questions provide evidence that a change of placement is in the student's best interest.

What is the student's permanency plan (check all that apply)?

- Reunification
- Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
- Guardianship
- Permanent Guardianship
- Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement

What is the expected date for achieving the permanency plan? [Click here to enter text.](#)

Education:

How many schools has the student attended in last 3 years? [Click here to enter text.](#)

How many this year? [Click here to enter text.](#)

How have the school changes affected the student emotionally, socially, academically, and/or physically?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Are there any safety considerations related to school placement?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

How does the child feel about any upcoming moves?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

What school(s) does the student's siblings attend?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Academics & School Activities:

How is the student performing academically?

Click here to enter text.

What are the student's academic/career goals? Does either school have programs and/or activities that uniquely meet these needs or interests?

Click here to enter text.

Would changing the student's school affect his/her ability to:
Earn full academic credits or pass classes needed for promotion? How?

Click here to enter text.

Complete or appropriately progress in the career pathway/CTE courses?

Click here to enter text.

Participate in sports or other extracurricular activities? How?

Click here to enter text.

Advance to the next grade? How?

Click here to enter text.

Graduate on time? How?

Click here to enter text.

Describe the student's ties to the current school, including significant relationships and involvement in activities.

Click here to enter text.

Would the timing of a school transfer coincide with a logical transition, such as after testing, at the end of the school year or an event that is significant to the student?

Click here to enter text.

Specialized Instruction:

Does the student have an IEP (circle one)? YES NO

If yes, what related services are required and to what extent can each school meet those needs?

Click here to enter text.

Does the student have a 504 plan (circle one)? YES NO

If yes, what accommodations are needed?

Click here to enter text.

Does the student participate in other specialized instruction? (ie. gifted/talented program, bilingual, career & technical program)

Click here to enter text.

Transportation:

Length of time to school of origin: Click here to enter text.

Distance (in miles): Click here to enter text.

How would this impact the student?

Click here to enter text.

Length of time to school of residence: Click here to enter text.

Distance (in miles): Click here to enter text.

How would this impact the student?

Click here to enter text.

Placement Preference:

What school does the student prefer? Why? How was this information attained?

Click here to enter text.

Which school do the birth parents/guardians or education decision maker prefer? Why?

Click here to enter text.

Which school does DFS prefer? Why?

Click here to enter text.

Which school do the foster parents prefer? Why?

Click here to enter text.

Supporting Documentation:

Attach any documents that were used to make this determination of best interest. (The following checklist is a sample of documents that may be considered and is not intended to be exhaustive.)

- Report cards
- Progress reports
- Achievement data (test scores)
- Attendance
- IEP or 504 Plan
- E-mails or correspondence from individuals consulted
- Discipline records
- EdInsight Comprehensive Student Report

Signature Page

Determination:

- The student shall remain in the school in which the student was enrolled at the time of placement.
- Based on the best interest determination, a change in school placement is needed. The student will be immediately enrolled in the school of current residence.

The views of all parties in attendance will be taken into consideration and the final decision will be made by the representative of the school of origin, the representative of the school of residence and the DSCYF representative. *If these three parties cannot agree, the child will remain in the School of Origin.* (14 DE Admin. Code 903)

Participants	Printed Name (Title and/or relationship to student)	Signature	Agreement with determination? (Circle & initial)	
			Yes	No
*Representative of the school of origin (REQUIRED)			Yes	No
*Representative of the school of residence (REQUIRED)			Yes	No
*Representative of DSCYF (REQUIRED)			Yes	No
Student			Yes	No
*Birth parent(s), guardian(s), Relative Caregiver			Yes	No
*Education Decision Maker			Yes	No
School of origin special education representative, if applicable			Yes	No
School of residence special education representative, if applicable			Yes	No
Other:			Yes	No
Other:			Yes	No

*A dispute resolution process is in place for specific parties who do not agree with the determination decision. Please ask the Foster Care Liaison for more information.