

Narrative:

The Board of Education of St. Elmo CUSD #202 is seeking a waiver of Section 5/10-21.12a of the Illinois School Code. This would allow the district to charge less than 110% of the per capita tuition charge for non-resident children of full-time employees of the St. Elmo School District. It would be at the sole discretion of the local Board of Education to annually approve applicants of children of the aforesaid staff members wanting to attend the St. Elmo School District. The St. Elmo Board of Education reserves the right to admit nonresident children of the aforesaid full-time employees when it can be done without prejudice to the rights of resident pupils. In lieu of per capita tuition, the district will claim these students toward enrollment for purposes of Evidence-Based Funding, as defined by Section 18-8.15 of the Illinois School Code. The district tuition charge for FY18 as set by the Illinois State Board of Education was \$7294.47 and our operating expense per pupil was \$9336.46.

Granting this mandate waiver would enhance the student performance and stimulate innovation within the school district by enhancing the performance of faculty members and staff. These faculty members and staff would have a vested interest in the instructional programs in the district, as these programs have the potential to become a personal benefit. Their own children are advanced by the merits of their individual efforts. The benefits of a conscientious teacher's efforts and a conscientious staff member's contribution to an educational institution can be enhanced and highlighted when their own family members are affected. Full-time working parents of the district are afforded a common purpose by combining the rigor of their professional lives and their personal lives. Granting this request will also assist the district in recruiting and retaining the highest quality staff members to serve our students.

If granted, the impact of this opportunity will be assessed over the five-year period of the waiver, through feedback from students, parents, faculty, and from the residents of the school community as a whole. The district will monitor the impact that the tuition waiver would have on school enrollment over this five-year period.