



Guiding Questions *PRIOR* to a Best Interest Determination

These questions can be provided to all participants prior to a BID in preparation for the meeting. They do not need to be all answered, but it is to assist all parties involved to assess the student's circumstances holistically.

Core Considerations:

District – School of Origin (SOO) / School of Residence (SOO)

- Does the child have a current IEP or 504 plans?
- Does the child participate in specialized instruction? (e.g., gifted program, career and technical program, etc.)
- How many schools has the child attended?
- How long has the child attended the current school?
- How is the current school serving the student's academic needs?
- If the child will be moving back to an SOO, how will the SOO serve the student's academic needs?
- How is the current school serving the student's social emotional needs?
- Are their safety considerations related to school placement?
- Are there any siblings to consider?
- How is the child/youth doing academically?
- Are there important ties at the SOO? If so, describe. If the child is not at their SOO, do they have any important ties at their current school?
- What is the length of the commute to school (SOO) and will this have an impact on the student?
- Would there be better timing on when to return the student to the SOO?
- If the student must change schools, is it possible to tie the transfer so that it coincides with a logical academic juncture (e.g. the end of the quarter, semester, school year)? Consider the academic calendars of the new school and current school.
- Would moving the child affect the student's ability to earn full academic credit, proceed to the next grade, or graduate on time?

Educational Rights Holder (ERH)

- How many schools has your child attended?
- How have school transfers affect your child emotionally, socially, academically, and physically?
- Are there safety considerations related to school placement?
- What school do you prefer your child to attend and why?
- How do you feel your child is doing academically?
- Are there important ties at the SOO? If so, describe. If the child is not at their SOO do they have any important ties at their current school?

- What is the length of the commute to school (SOO) and will this have an impact on your child?
- How long has your child attended the current school?
- How is the current school serving your child's academic needs?
- If the child will be moving back to an SOO, how will the SOO serve your child's academic needs?
- Would moving your child/youth affect their ability to earn full academic credit, proceed to the next grade, or graduate on time?
- How is the current school serving your child's/youth's social emotional needs?
- If your child/youth will be moving back to an SOO, how will the SOO serve the social emotional needs?
- Are you able to transport the child to their school of origin and receive reimbursement for mileage?
- If the child has high needs or is a younger child, are you able to reach the child in case of an emergency in a timely manner? (i.e. gets sick often, has an accident etc.)
- Do you have any concerns about the child's developmental milestones or any behavioral concerns?
- Would your natural support assist you with transportation and care as needed?

Student

- What are your educational goals?
- Do you have any safety concerns related to school placement?
- What school do you prefer and why?
- How do you feel you are doing academically?
- Do you have any important ties at the SOO? If so, describe. If you are not at your 'original' SOO, do you have any important ties at your current school?
- What is the length of the commute to school (SOO) and will this have an impact on you?
- Would moving affect your ability to earn full academic credit, proceed to the next grade, or graduate on time?
- How is the current school serving your social emotional needs?
- If you will be moving back to an SOO, how will the SOO serve your social emotional needs?
- How do you feel about moving?

Additional Considerations:

Housing

- Where is the family currently staying? Is it short-term or long-term?
- Is there anything about the housing situation that is impacting the student's success in school?