

SURROGATE PARENT REGULATION

The Bethlehem Central School District (the District) will determine whether the student's parents can be identified or located, or whether the student is a ward of the state. The District will send notice of the possible need for a surrogate parent to the adult in charge, if any, of the student's place of residence and to the parents at their last known address. Where the student is known to the District to be a ward of the state, such reasonable efforts to discover the whereabouts of a parent will include consultation with the agency responsible for the care of the student. The determination of the need for a surrogate parent will be completed within a reasonable time following the receipt of a referral for an initial evaluation, reevaluation, or services.

If the Board of Education (the Board) finds that there is a need for a surrogate parent, one will be selected from the list approved by the Board within ten business days of the date of the determination by the Board of the need except in the following circumstances:

1. The foster parent of the student who meets the qualifications to become a surrogate parent may be appointed without being appointed from a list approved by the Board.
2. The surrogate parent may be appointed by the judge overseeing the child's case.
3. The appropriate staff of emergency shelters, transitional shelters, independent living programs, and street outreach programs may be appointed as temporary surrogate parents of an unaccompanied homeless youth until a surrogate can be appointed that meets the appropriate qualifications.

Adoption date: May 20, 2009

Revised date: February 27, 2019