

For Immediate Release

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Mayor Harkins, Schools Supt. Robinson announce heightened vigilance on residency requirements

STRATFORD – For the upcoming school year, Mayor John A. Harkins and Superintendent of Schools Janet Robinson have jointly agreed to focus on ensuring Stratford students' ability to learn is not impeded by out-of-district students surreptitiously attending Stratford schools.

The initiative comes at the request of Mayor Harkins, who said he has heard complaints of non-Stratford students attending schools here over the last several months.

"Any student from outside of Stratford who does not belong in our schools directly impacts our students who are residents by draining precious resources that should be used to educate Stratford children," said Mayor Harkins. "Taxpayers should also not shoulder the burden of paying to educate non-Stratford residents."

"It is our mission to ensure that all of our Stratford students receive the best possible education with teachers who are focused on meeting their needs. Students who might be from other districts need to be educated in their home district, whose mission it is to educate them. We will do all that we can to work successfully with our students, just as other districts are committed to working with their students. So, we are determined to work hand in hand with our town officials to ensure that students in our schools are residents of Stratford," said Supt. Robinson.

Mayor Harkins also said the police department will be working in conjunction with the school administration and will be seeking appropriate criminal or civil actions as applicable to anyone found to be in Stratford schools illegally.

Anyone suspecting fraudulent activity with regard to residency in Stratford schools is encouraged to report such activity via the school district's web site. The site can be accessed at: www.stratfordk12.org/FraudReport.

Additionally, information on proof of residency requirements can be found here: www.stratfordk12.org/Content/New_Student_Registration.asp.