

5130 WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

The Board of Education believes that the educational goals of this district are best implemented by a pupil's exposure to the entire educational program and that every pupil enrolled in this district should be encouraged to complete the program of instruction appropriate to his/her needs. No pupil below the age of sixteen will be permitted to withdraw from school.

The Superintendent shall alert teaching staff members to identify those pupils who may consider eighth grade graduation the termination of their education. Any pupil who indicates that he/she may drop out of school before entry to the ninth grade should be reported to the Building Principal and be provided with counseling.

The Board directs that efforts be made to determine the underlying reason for a pupil's decision to withdraw from school before the completion of the instructional program. A potential dropout pupil will be offered counseling and an opportunity to plan an instructional program appropriate to his/her career goals. Pupils between the ages of sixteen and eighteen will only be permitted to withdraw with the written consent of the pupil's parent(s) or guardian(s).

Counseling services and information regarding high school equivalency programs will be made available to any pupil sixteen years of age or older who decides to withdraw from school before completion of the requirements for a diploma. A pupil who has withdrawn from school may apply for readmission at any time prior to his/her twentieth birthday, provided application for readmission is made at the beginning of a school term.

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 5550

Approved: February 19, 2002
Revised: June 5, 2012
Reviewed: October 10, 2017

R 5130 WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

Every pupil in this district shall be encouraged to complete the program of instruction in which he/she is enrolled, in cooperation with school staff members. Although the enrollment and attendance of persons over the age of sixteen cannot be compelled by law, school personnel shall make every reasonable effort to determine whether the school is meeting the educational needs of a pupil who requests withdrawal.

A. Request for Permanent Withdrawal

1. The pupil must obtain a withdrawal form from the Guidance Office to be taken home for the signature of his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).
2. The pupil must meet with the guidance counselor to discuss the reasons for the requested withdrawal.
3. The guidance counselor will review the pupil's file to determine whether the pupil has received the educational services to which he/she is entitled.
4. The pupil will be offered an exit conference with the guidance counselor at which the pupil will be informed of:
 - a. The desirability of continuing education at some future time toward the award of a high school diploma through an Adult High School Program,
 - b. The possibility of readmission until the pupil is twenty years of age (or, if the pupil is disabled, until the end of the school year in which his/her twenty-first birthday occurs),
 - c. The possibility of further education in the Armed Forces of the United States and the application of such training toward a high school diploma pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:27-4.1, and
 - d. The continuing availability of high school counseling services.

5. The guidance counselor will report the withdrawal and the reasons for the withdrawal to the Superintendent to satisfy state reporting requirements.

B. Transferring Pupils

1. A pupil requesting transfer to another school, public or private, must obtain from the Guidance Office a transfer form for approval by the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
2. A parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who withdraws a pupil from this district shall be asked to designate the name and location of the school or school district in which he/she intends to enroll the pupil. The Principal shall be alert to the receipt of a request for records from that school district, for the purpose of implementing Policy No. 8464.

C. Pupil's Responsibilities

A pupil who withdraws, permanently or by transfer, must:

1. Return all books, uniforms, and other school property to the appropriate school staff member, who shall give a proper receipt for returned items;
2. Clear out his/her locker(s) and turn in any locks owned by the district;
3. Clear any obligations, for materials or fines, to the school library;
4. Pay any fines due for damaged or lost textbooks; and
5. Submit a properly authorized withdrawal or transfer form.

D. Records

1. The records of a pupil who transfers to another school will be sent to that school in accordance with Regulation No. 8330.
2. The permanent records of a pupil who withdraws from school will be retained in accordance with Regulation No. 8330.

In Effect: June 5, 2012