

IHBG

HOME EDUCATION AND ACCESS TO CURRICULUM AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

A. Home Education

Home Education is an alternative to compulsory attendance at a public or private school and must be conducted in accordance with New Hampshire RSA 193-A and NH Ed. 315. A parent or guardian may establish a home education program for any child between the ages of six (6) and eighteen (18) years of age whether or not such child is/was previously enrolled in the school district. **Notices Required**

State school attendance laws apply to each student until a parent/guardian commences a home education program. Similarly, the District's attendance policies apply to all students enrolled in schools of the District.

Any parent commencing a home education program for a child, for a child who withdraws from a public school, or for a child who moves into a school district shall notify the commissioner of the department of education, resident school district Superintendent, or principal of a nonpublic school of such within 5 business days of commencing the program. Notification shall include a list of the names, addresses, and birth dates of all children who are participating in the home education program.

Written notice of termination of a home education program shall be filed by the parent with the commissioner of education, and, in addition, the resident district superintendent or nonpublic school principal within 15 days of said termination.

B. Records and Evaluation

Homeschool records and evaluations shall be maintained in accordance with applicable New Hampshire statutes and education rules.

C. Liability Limited

In accordance with RSA 193, the School Board, school district, and any employees of the school district, are not liable in damages in a civil action for any injury, death or loss to person or property allegedly sustained by that child, the child's parent, or any other person as a result of the child's receipt of home education, including but not limited to, any liability allegedly based on the failure of the child to receive a free appropriate or adequate public education.

D. Access to Public School Programs

1. The Rochester School Board recognizes that nonpublic, public chartered school, or home educated pupils shall have access to curricular courses and co-curricular programs offered by the school district in accordance with NH statute. Parents/guardians who wish

for their child to participate in curricular courses and or co-curricular programs shall follow the same process as the district's resident students. Students will be granted admission when administratively and academically feasible and appropriate. All Rochester School District policies and procedures related to space and capacity; add/drop timelines; and pre-requisite requirements will be applicable.

2. The student shall be subject to all school regulations and requirements, teacher/staff requests, and the school discipline policy, including appeal procedures.
3. Students will be allowed to participate on school athletic teams, if they meet the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. requirements for eligibility.
4. Students will be allowed to participate in other extra and co-curricular activities if they meet the criteria for eligibility under School Board Policy IGDA.
5. Students coming onto or leaving the school grounds will do so through the school office, to ensure continuous supervision for the student during the transfer to and from the parent/guardian. If the activity begins or ends when the office is closed, the parent/guardian will submit to the Superintendent a written proposal for transfers of responsibility for the student.
6. Student participation in the school activities may be terminated by either party with written notice.

The district is not responsible for nonpublic, public chartered school, or home educated students who are educationally handicapped. Additionally, a "home educated student" shall not include any student who has graduated from a high school level program of home education, or its equivalent, or has attained the age of 21.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to require a parent to establish a home education program which exceeds the requirements of RSA 193:1.

Adoption Date: February 8, 1996

Board Review/Amended: June 10, 2021