

Policy

GUIDANCE SERVICES

A guidance program shall be incorporated into the district's educational program to aid students in making informed and responsible decisions and in using effective decision-making processes. The guidance program shall be developed and coordinated by the superintendent in consultation with teaching staff members he/she has identified as possessing necessary skills and abilities, to help students acquire the insights and knowledge they need to become autonomous, mature members of adult society in a democratic nation.

The board of education shall ensure all students have access to adequate and appropriate counseling services. When informing students about possible careers or professional or vocational opportunities, the options presented to students shall not be restricted or limited on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status. No biased or stereotyped tests or guidance or counseling materials shall be used.

The purpose of the guidance program shall be to help students in learning to make their own decisions concerning life's many choices--personal, educational, and career/vocational.

The guidance program shall provide, as fully as possible, the information needed to make the best decisions concerning the student's educational program. Such information shall include facts such as test scores, grades and educational history. Student records may also include anecdotes, but shall not carry judgments, opinions and other advice.

Students shall be encouraged to avail themselves of the help of the guidance department's personnel.

Guidance services shall include establishment of a referral system that guards the privacy of the student and monitors the efficacy of such referrals, when district resources are not sufficient, as in drug or alcohol counseling.

Adopted: October 27, 2009
Revised: February 25, 2014
NJSBA Review/Update: April 2015
1st Reading: May 24, 2016
Readopted: June 14, 2016
1st Reading: January 24, 2017
Readopted: February 28, 2017

Key Words

Guidance Services

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.2 Career development program
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19 Student records; creation, maintenance and retention, security and access; regulations; nonliability
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.1 Military recruiters; access to schools and student information directories
N.J.S.A. 18A:38-36 Employment certificates to part-time students; revocation
N.J.S.A. 18A:46-5.1 Basic child study team services; provision by boards of education and state operated programs
N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7 Equality in school and classroom practices
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.1 et seq. Standards and Assessment
See particularly:

GUIDANCE SERVICES (continued)

<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-3.2	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9B-12.2	Substance awareness coordinator
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9B-12.7	Director of school counseling services
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9B-12.8	School counselor
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-3.4	Evaluation
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-4.1	Adoption of policies and procedures for the intervention of student alcohol and other drug abuse
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-7.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Student Records
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-12.2	Guidance and counseling

Possible

<u>Cross References:</u> 5000	Concepts and roles in student personnel
5010	Personal goals and objectives for students
*5020	Role of parents/guardians
*5113	Absences and excuses
*5114	Suspension and expulsion
*5120	Assessment of individual needs
*5124	Reporting to parents/guardians
*5125	Student records
*5131	Conduct/discipline
*5131.1	Harassment, intimidation and bullying
*5131.6	Drugs, alcohol, tobacco (substance abuse)
*6142.12	Career education
*6145	Extracurricular activities
*6146	Graduation requirements
*6164.4	Child study team
*6171.1	Remedial instruction
*6171.2	Gifted and talented
*6171.4	Special education
*6172	Alternative educational programs
*6173	Home instruction

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.