Instruction

Students Educated Other Than in the Public Schools

By Connecticut State Law, a parent(s) or guardian(s) may educate a child other than in the public schools or in state accredited private schools. The New London Board of Education recognizes that right, but the Board also acknowledges that such education entails obligations not only on the parent but also on the New London Board of Education.

The obligation of the parent(s) or guardian(s) is to show that such child is elsewhere receiving an education equivalent to that offered in the New London Public Schools.

It is the responsibility of the local Board of Education to determine whether or not that education is equivalent to the educational programs offered by the district in accordance with Sections 10-184 and 10-220 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Any request by a parent or guardian to educate his or her child at home will be considered for the current school year only.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-184 Duties of parents

10-184a Special education programs not required for children in home or

private schools

10-220 Duties of boards of education

Instruction

Students Educated Other Than in the Public Schools

Since the critical factor in any review of a request to educate a child elsewhere is that the review will give the parent(s) or guardian(s) and local school Board an opportunity to determine whether or not the child will be assured of an appropriate educational experience, the following will be observed when a parent(s) or guardian(s) wishes to educate a child(ren) elsewhere than in the New London Public Schools:

- 1. The parent should submit to the Superintendent of Schools a State Department of Education Notice of Intent form which provides basic information about the program to be provided for his or her child. A notice of intent will be effective for up to one school year.
- 2. The filing must occur within ten days of the start of the home instructional program.
- 3. Upon receiving the Notice of Intent form, the Superintendent of Schools or his or her designee will review it for completeness and keep it as part of the school district's permanent records. A complete form will be one which provides basic information, including the name of the teacher, the subjects to be taught and days of instruction, and the teacher's method of assessment.
- 4. By filing a notice of intent, a parent or guardian acknowledges full responsibility for the education of his or her child in accordance with the requirements of state law. Receipt of approval by a school district in no way constitutes approval by a school district of the content or effectiveness of a program of home instruction.
- 5. If a parent or guardian fails to file a notice of intent or files an incomplete form, then the Superintendent of Schools or his or her designee shall mail a certified letter to the parent or guardian, requesting compliance within ten days.
- 6. An annual portfolio review will be held between the parents or guardians and the Superintendent of Schools or his or her designee to determine if instruction in the required courses has been given.
- 7. Any continued refusal by the parent or guardian to comply with the reasonable request of the school district for completion and filing of the notice of intent or to participate in an annual portfolio review may cause the child to be considered truant.
- 8. No notice of intent shall be required of any child younger than five years or older than eighteen.

Instruction

Students Educated Other Than in the Public Schools (continued)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-184 Duties of parents

10-184a Special education programs not required for children in home or

private schools

10-220 Duties of boards of education