



Book	Brookline Policy Manual
Section	Section I - Instruction
Title	(BSD) Home Education Instruction
Code	IHBG
Status	Active

IHBG

HOME EDUCATION INSTRUCTION

Parents who are residents of the Brookline School District wishing to home educate their child(ren) shall conform to all applicable laws and rules of the State Board of Education regarding home education. Pupils with home education programs may attend curricular activities at school subject to available space. Additionally, a request for a child being educated at home to participate in part of the Brookline School District academic program and/or to participate in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities will be determined on a case-by-case basis. All requests must be submitted in writing to the Superintendent of Schools.

Statutory & Regulatory References:

RSA 193:1
ED 315.19

1st Reading: August 26, 2014
2nd Reading: September 23, 2014
3rd Reading: October 28, 2014
Adopted: October 28, 2014



Book	Brookline Policy Manual
Section	Section I - Instruction
Title	(BSD) Home Education Participation in District Activities
Code	IHBG-R
Status	Active

IHBG-R

HOME EDUCATION PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

A. DEFINITIONS

- a. "Home schooler" shall mean a "child as defined in RSA 193-A who is a resident of Brookline and who is a participant in a bonafide home education program pursuant to RSA 193-A.
- b. "Parent" shall mean the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of a child.
- c. "Applicable school" shall mean the Brookline School District which the home schooler would be attending but for their participation in a home education program.
- d. "Applicable principal" shall mean the principal of the applicable school or their designee.
- e. "Educational program" shall mean a course, class, co-curricular activity, field trip, use of the information center, or other program or resource offered by or sponsored by the Brookline School District.
- f. "The District" shall mean the Brookline School District.
- g. "Town" shall mean the Town of Brookline where a home schooler resides.
- h. "Board" shall mean the School Board for the Town of Brookline.
- a. "Superintendent" shall mean the Superintendent of SAU 41 or designee.
- j. "Extra curricular" shall mean activities or clubs organized in the Brookline School District which occur outside normal school hours.
- k. "Co-curricular" shall mean activities or clubs organized in the Brookline School District which occur during normal school hours.

B. REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION

- a. All requests by a home schooler to participate in an educational program or co-curricular

activities shall be made in writing by the parent to the Superintendent of Schools.

- b. After consulting with the Principal of the applicable school (who shall consult with appropriate staff), the Superintendent (or designee) shall grant or deny the request in writing, based upon the following criteria:
 - i. Whether granting the request would involve any expenses (other than normal expenses) to the Brookline School District.
 - ii. Whether granting the request would require a substantial administrative or staff burden.
 - iii. Whether granting the request is administratively and academically feasible.
 - iv. Availability of space in an educational program.
 - v. Whether there are any scheduling difficulties with the request.
 - vi. Whether the parent and home schooler agree to comply with the rules and regulations of the Brookline School District, including those rules and regulations included herein.
 - vii. Whether or not the request for participation is academically appropriate for the home schooler as well as for other students who will also be participating in the educational activity.
 - viii. Whether the home schooler would require special services of any type.
 - ix. Whether the request for participation is so extensive that the home schooler should be enrolled as a full time student in the District.
 - x. The timeliness of the request.
 - xi. Whether any other factor exists why the request should be granted or denied.
- c. The parent may appeal the decision of the Superintendent or designee, in writing, within ten days of the date of the Superintendent's decision. The Board shall, at its next regularly scheduled meeting, hear the appeal. In addition to relevant documentary materials, the only evidence permitted before the Board shall be the oral or written testimony of the parent and/or, if appropriate, the home schooler plus the oral or written testimony of the applicable Principal, or their designee and the Superintendent. The decision of the Brookline School Board shall be final.

c. WAIVERS, PERMISSION, NOTICE AND RESPONSIBILITY

- a. All home schoolers participating in an educational program, co-curricular or extra-curricular activities must follow all applicable rules, policies and procedures, specifically including requirements of immunization. During their period of participation in school activities, each home schooler shall abide by all rules of the school as the rules pertain to all students; and the parents of the home schooler shall execute standard waivers and permissions and shall be subject to the rules, regulations and notices as are in effect for all children and parents.
- b. The Brookline School District shall cause, at the request of a parent, the parent to be placed on the mailing list for any applicable school to receive such notices as are ordinarily distributed either by the mail or through students.

- c. The Brookline School District shall not be responsible for providing transportation for any home schooler unless such can be done at no additional cost to the Brookline School District and without undue administrative burden to the Brookline School District.
- d. The Brookline School District shall not be responsible to investigate or to notify the parent in the event that a home schooler does not attend an educational program. It is the responsibility of the parents of the home schooler to assure the attendance of the home schooler at an educational program. The Brookline School District is not responsible for the consequences, direct or indirect, of any home schooler's failure to attend or participate in an educational program.

D. DISCIPLINE AND TERMINATION

- a. Home schoolers participating in educational programs shall be subject to the same standards and code of conduct as any other participant in programs of the Brookline School District.
- b. The Brookline School District reserves the right to terminate the participation of a home schooler in educational programs at any time for the reasons set forth below. An appeal by a parent under this paragraph shall be handled in the same fashion as an original request for participation. As in that matter, the decision of the Brookline School Board shall be final.
- c. Failure of the home schooler to abide by all applicable rules and regulations, including all rules of student conduct.
- d. Failure of the home schooler to participate in scheduled activities, or violation of the District's attendance policy.
- e. If an unforeseen significant expense occurs or comes to light related to the home schooler's participation.
- f. Failure of the home schooler to progress academically or to put forth reasonable effort in an academic program.
- g. Failure of a home schooler or parent to abide by the procedures set forth herein.
- h. If the participation of a home schooler has significant detrimental impact on, or is disruptive to, other students.
- a. Such other reason deemed sufficient by the Superintendent as occurs in the course of the home schooler's participation.
- j. It is understood that the enrolled student must comply with all State of New Hampshire laws, and all Brookline School District policies.

E. SPECIAL RULES FOR PARTICIPATION IN Co-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & EXTRA-CURRICULAR

The following rules shall apply to a home schooler's request to participate in a co-curricular activity:

- a. A home schooler requesting to participate in a co-curricular activity shall be subject to the same standards of eligibility as a student in the Brookline School System who wishes to participate, including health requirements, the requirements of physical examinations,

and standards of ability as set by the applicable coach/advisor or other Brookline School District agent or official.

- b. A home schooler shall be permitted to participate in any co-curricular/extra-curricular activity held on a school day, including practice or training, only if their parent executes a written statement on the day of each such event indicating that the home schooler has participated in their home education program on the day of the event. The appropriate coach or advisor shall not permit a student to participate unless this requirement is met. If the co-curricular activity is during the academic day or prior to the completion of a home education program of that day, the parent must certify that the child completed the home education program which occurred on the most recent instructional day.
- c. A home schooler shall be permitted to participate in a co-curricular/extra-curricular activity only after the Superintendent or designee is provided with sufficient proof that the home schooler has been and continues to make appropriate achievement in the home educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall determine and be the sole judge of what constitutes reasonable and acceptable proof of academic progress.

F. SPECIFIC MATTERS

- a. Request for participation in specific academic programs shall generally be granted unless there is no regularly scheduled time for that activity.
- b. The Superintendent or designee may request an appropriate academic assessment of the home schooler, at the parents' expense, prior to granting or denying the request. Placement within any academic program shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee, in their sole discretion. (For example, a student would ordinarily not be allowed to participate in Grade 3 Math until it is established that they have demonstrated sufficient proficiency in the Grade 2 Math Course to do so.)
- c. The decision of a coach/advisor or other school official as to whether or not a home schooler is entitled to participate in a co-curricular/extra-curricular activity based upon ability or any other factor that the coach or other advisor deems appropriate for any participant shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- d. Requests for counseling, psychological services, guidance services, and the like shall generally be denied.
- e. Requests for physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and other specialized and/or individualized shall be denied.
- f. Requests to participate in intramural sports and games, and/or other co-curricular activities shall generally be granted. In activities where the number of interested students is greater than available positions, home schooled students shall be eligible to try out for a position.
- g. Requests for participation in activities which are purely social, such as school dances, will be determined in accordance with the school's guest policies or practices.
- h. Requests for field trip attendance shall be determined based upon the student's participation in the curricular material connected with the field trip. Additionally, the Brookline School District shall bear no cost for the child's attendance on such a trip.

G. ACCESS TO CURRICULUM

a. Subject to availability, the Brookline School District will provide access to curricular materials used by the Brookline School District and will develop procedures regarding the home education student's ability to borrow such materials.

b. Access to individual teacher materials will not be granted.

c. The Brookline School District will make available, at cost, the purchase of Brookline Curricular Consumable materials if available.

1st Reading: August 26, 2014 (as amended)
2nd Reading: September 23, 2014 (as amended)
3rd Reading: October 28, 2014
Adopted: October 28, 2014 (as amended)