

## **RSU #63**

- a. NEPN/NSBA Code:** **JLDBG**
- b. Title:** **Reintegration of Students from Juvenile Correctional Facilities**
- c. Author:**
- d. Replaces Policy:**
- e. Date Approved:** **02/27/2017 RSU #63**
- f. Previously Approved:** **12/06/2004**
- g. Policy Expiration:** **Review as Needed**
- h. Responsible for Review:** **Superintendent & Policy Committee**
- i. Date Reviewed:** **01/09/2017 Superintendent**  
**01/09/2017 Policy Committee**
- j. References:** **20-A MRSA Chap. 254 (12); 1055 (11); 2902 (10); 4502 (5) (0);**  
**6001-B (1), B (2), B (3-A)**  
**15 MRSA Chap. 3009,3308 (7) (E)**  
**Family Education Records and Privacy Act (FERPA)**
- k. Narrative:**

Maine law requires the establishment of a reintegration team to assist a student entering public school from a juvenile correctional facility. The RSU 63 Board of Directors (the Board) recognizes the need for advance planning and appropriate confidentiality in these circumstances.

- I.** The Superintendent will be responsible for determining whether a student will be accepted or denied access to school based on compliance with the juvenile's rehabilitation plan as it affects reintegration. Access may be denied until the Superintendent is satisfied that all conditions have been met.
- II.** RSU 63 will comply with reintegration standards established by the Maine Department of Education (DOE).
- III.** The Superintendent will be responsible for overseeing the transition of students from juvenile correctional facilities based on the following guidelines, subject to further DOE modification:
  - A.** Within 10 days of receiving information from the Department of Corrections (DOC) concerning the release of a juvenile offender, the Superintendent will establish and convene a meeting of a reintegration team to review information received from the DOC, evaluate the student's individual education needs, and determine what additional information may be relevant.
  - B.** The reintegration team will include, at a minimum, the Principal/designee of the school to which the student will be admitted, at least one classroom teacher to which the student will be admitted or who is involved in the school's student assistance team, the student's parent/guardian/custodian, and a guidance counselor. The student's juvenile correctional officer or other representative from

the DOC may be invited to attend. It would also be reasonable to include the Director of Special Services and/or professional personnel, as appropriate.

The purpose of the meeting will be the development of an individualized plan for the student's reintegration based on the student's educational needs and the options available within RSU 63. This meeting should include the student, as appropriate. The plan will address the student's educational program, participation in activities (including co-curricular and extracurricular activities), and access to school facilities (including transportation).

- C. The reintegration team will determine, on the basis of need, which school employees should be given or receive or have access to information that would be otherwise confidential. The nature and extent of information provided should be limited to that needed to implement the student's reintegration plan and ensure the health and safety of the student, the safety of the school's students and staff, and the integrity of school property.
- D. The Superintendent/designee will be responsible for ensuring confidentiality training, including a review of the school district's policy and administrative procedures pertinent to records from the juvenile criminal justice system, including the juvenile correctional facility, and to all student educational records under the Family Education Records and Privacy Act (FERPA), is provided to all school employees who have access to this information.
- E. Placement in grade, class, and/or school programs will be based on the student's abilities and academic achievement demonstrated in prior educational settings, including the student's stay at the juvenile correctional facility. The Principal will be responsible for evaluating the student's transcript and portfolio from the juvenile correctional facility to assess progress toward meeting the content standards of the Learning Results. The Principal may require the student to participate in additional tests or other demonstrations of skill and knowledge, consistent with the local assessment system, for the purpose of determining appropriate placement.
- F. The Superintendent/designee will be responsible for developing and implementing a process for monitoring and reporting a student's progress and compliance with the reintegration plan and for modifying the plan as needed.
- G. A student who violates Board or school rules will be subject to the disciplinary consequences described in policy, administrative procedures, and/or the Student Handbook/Student Code of Conduct.
- H. The Superintendent/designee will make any reports that may be required by the DOE concerning numbers of students entering the local school district from juvenile correctional facilities.

- I. While determining who should be on a team is usually an easy matter, the determination of who has the “need to know” and, therefore, should be given or have access to confidential information is not necessarily so easy. The Superintendent should contact MSMA or the district’s attorney when questions concerning confidentiality arise.