No. 234-AR-0



ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

APPROVED:

REVISED:

234-AR-0. STUDENTS EXPERIENCING PREGNANCY/PREGNANCY-RELATED CONDITIONS OR PARENTING

District administrators will take steps to ensure that students who are experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting have equal access to the district's educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

A pregnant student may inform a teacher, nurse, counselor or other school staff about her pregnancy. The staff member, upon receiving consent from the student, will inform the principal of receipt of the information.

Reasonable Modifications and Support

Once the student informs **the school** about the pregnancy or pregnancy-related condition, the **school counselor** or designee will meet with the student to discuss the student's individualized needs and determine what reasonable modifications may be offered, in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy. A modification that would fundamentally alter the nature of the district's educational program or activity is not considered a reasonable modification.

The student may decide to accept or decline each reasonable modification offered by the district.

The district must implement each reasonable modification accepted by the student.

Reasonable modifications may include those provisions outlined in Board policy, and other supports specifically designed to meet the needs of a student experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting, including but not limited to:

- 1. Physical space accommodations, such as a larger desk or a footrest.
- 2. Access to use of an elevator.
- 3. A different size uniform or flexibility with a student dress code.
- 4. Adjustments to class schedules to address physical needs, lactation or child care schedule.
- 5. Other modifications or adjustments to Board policies and district administrative regulations, procedures or practices.

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The district will not require supporting documentation to be provided unless the documentation is necessary and reasonable for determining the reasonable modifications for the student, or whether additional actions are needed to meet the needs of the student experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting.

The **school counselor or designee** will maintain and provide a list of resources available to students experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions and parenting, will communicate with local community agencies that can provide relevant assistance and will assist a student in accessing available social services that will enable the student to remain in school to achieve graduation.

Homebound Instruction

Experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting does not, in itself, necessitate that a student receive homebound instruction.

Homebound instruction may be discussed with the student as a reasonable modification, and would be provided in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy. (Pol. 117)

Excused Absence/Leave of Absence

The building principal may approve intermittent absences for a student experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting to attend medical appointments or address mental and physical health conditions, in accordance with Board policy. (Pol. 204)

The building principal may temporarily excuse attendance by a student experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting for mental, physical or other urgent reasons, for a period not to exceed three (3) months, in accordance with law, regulations and Board policy. (Pol. 204)

The **school counselor or designee** will address requests for a voluntary leave of absence that is medically necessary, as determined by the student's licensed healthcare provider, as a reasonable modification.

Any excuse from attending school for longer than temporary periods of three (3) months will not be final until the Board obtains the approval of the Secretary of Education. The district will maintain and submit to the Secretary of Education documentation regarding the reason(s) for an excuse from attendance and will request approval in all cases where nonattendance is being sought for longer than a temporary period.

The building principal will allow any student who has been absent from school due to experiencing pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting to re-enter school in the same manner as any student whose nonattendance is a result of an excused absence or temporary disability. The student will be reinstated to the academic status, and, as practicable, to the extracurricular activities status that the student held when the leave began.

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A student over compulsory school age who leaves school due to pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions or parenting, without achieving a high school diploma, will be permitted to re-enroll in school until the end of the school term in which the student attains the age of twenty-one (21). (Pol. 200)

Lactation Space

The district will provide a space, other than a bathroom, that is clean, shielded from view and free from intrusion from others as a lactation space for a student for expressing breast milk or breastfeeding, as needed.

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