

HOME EDUCATION

The Massachusetts General Law requires the School Committee to determine that a Homeschooling program meet with the minimum standards established for public schools in the Commonwealth prior to approving such a program.

When a parent or guardian of a student below the age or grade level of sixteen (16) wants to establish a home-based educational program for his/her child, the following procedures shall be followed in accordance with the law:
Prior to removing the child from public school:

The parent/guardian must submit written notification of establishment of the home-based program to the appropriate administrator fourteen (14) days before the program is established, and resubmit notification on an annual basis as long as the child or children are being educated in a home-based environment.

The parent/guardian must certify in writing, on a form provided by the District, the name, age, place of residence, and number of hours of attendance of each child in the program. Residency requirements follow Policy JF and Policy Exhibit JF-E1.

The Superintendent shall give the notice to produce records required by law if there is probable cause to believe the program is not in compliance with the law. Factors to be considered by the Superintendent and/or his/her designee and/or School Committee in deciding whether, or not to approve a home education proposal may be:

1. The proposed curriculum and the number of hours of instruction in each of the proposed subjects.
2. The competency of the parents to teach the children.
3. The textbooks, workbooks and other instructional aids to be used by the children and the lesson plans and teaching manuals to be used by the parents.
4. Periodic standardized testing of the children to ensure educational progress and the attainment of minimum standards.

Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities:

If parents/guardians wish to have their homeschooled child participate in any extra-curricular activity:

1. Approval must be sought from the Superintendent and/or his/her Designee prior to the start of said activity;
2. Participants must adhere to all rules and regulations as presented by the activity advisor.
3. All user fees and eligibility requirements must be met.

Enrolling in Attleboro Public Schools:

If a homeschool student would like to register to be a full-time student in Attleboro Public Schools, a Transition Plan can be written by the building Principal and/or his/her designee to support their individual needs. This Transition Plan must be approved by the Assistant Superintendent before it can be fully implemented.

Source: MASC

Legal References:

- M.G.L. 69:1D; 76:1; Care and Protection of Charles - MASS. Supreme Judicial Court 399 Mass. 324 (1987)

Cross References:

- Policy JF: Residency
- Policy Exhibit: JF-E1: Proof of Residency Requirements