

Official Posting/Notice of Meeting
The Newport School District/SAU43
603-865-9500 ~ www.sau43.nh.gov
We Encourage you to Attend
Location and Time
Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center
243 N. Main St.~ Newport, New Hampshire 03773
September 24, 2026
5:30 PM

- I. Call to Order - Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Presentations:
 - a. Board member Applicants page 3
 - 1. Aaron LeClair
 - 2. Tyler Sullivan
- IV. Public Comment
 - a. The purpose of public comments is to give the residents of Newport the opportunity to address the Board. Any comments must be directed to the Chair. All people wishing to speak will come forward to the microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized to give their comments.
 - b. If there is no one else present wishing to speak a motion is in order to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation present and to table the remaining minutes for public comment to the end of the meeting for those that have not already spoken.
 - c. Response to Public Comment (Note: Motions limited to placing items on a future agenda)
- V. Adjustments to the Agenda
- VI. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Minutes from School Board Meeting September 10, 2026 page 4
- VII. Student Representative Report
- VIII. Consent Agenda:
 - a. AP Manifest page 9
 - 1. 1026 - \$187,721.97
 - 2. 1035 - \$ 19,289.92
 - 3. AP Total: \$207,011.89
 - b. Payroll Manifest
 - 1. 8 - \$19,889.71
 - 2. 9 - \$ 1,791.53
 - 3. 1027 - \$593.75
 - 4. 1028 - \$276,409.50
 - 5. 1029 - \$ 83,536.31
 - 6. 1030 - \$ 2,804.50
 - 7. 1031 - \$ 2,566.00
 - 8. 1032 - \$ 60.22
 - 9. 1033 - \$ 525.21
 - 10. 1034 - \$113,312.28
 - 11. Payroll Total: \$499,489.01
- IX. Information:
 - a. Preschool page 10
 - b. Auto donation page 11
- X. Action:
 - a. Nominate and Appoint new Board member for seat until March 2027 page 12
 - b. First Read Policy IC School Year page 13
 - c. First Read Policy IGE Parental Objections to Specific Course Materials page 20
 - d. First Read Policy IHBA Programs for Pupils with Disabilities page 27

- e. First Read Policy IHBG Home Education Instruction & Access to Curricular and Co-Curricular Programs page 36
- f. First Read Policy IJOC Volunteers page 51
- g. First Read Policy IMBA Distance Education page 62
- h. First Read Policy IMDA Patriotic Exercises page 74
- i. Approval for Chair Murphy to attend the NHSBA Annual Delegate Assembly October 17, 2026 page 78

- XI. Tabled Items
- XII. Personnel Reports
- XIII. Committee Report Outs
- XIV. Public Comment - Goals 2 & 3
- XV. Superintendent Communications
 - a. Robert Wargo, Interim Superintendent
 - b. Kate O'Connor, Business Administrator page 79
 - c. Darlene Ayotte, Director of Student Services
- XVI. Board Communications
- XVII. Items for Next Agenda
- XVIII. Non-public session
 - a. A motion is in order to go into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A:3 II
 - _____ A: the dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee;
 - _____ B: the hiring of any person as a public employee;
 - _____ C: matters, which if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person;
 - _____ D: consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property;
 - _____ E: consideration of negotiation of pending claims or litigation;
 - _____ I: consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions
 - _____ J: consideration of confidential, commercial or financial information that is exempt from public disclosure
 - _____ K: consideration by a school board of entering into a student or pupil tuition contract;
 - _____ L: consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally.
- XIX. Adjournment

School Board Goals

1. Budget and Fiscal Responsibility
 2. Policy Development and Governance
 3. Strategic Alignment and Accountability
-

Notice Posted 9/18/26 - Posted at Richards Elementary, Newport Middle and High School, SRVRTC, Richards Free Library and Town of Newport Office, and on-line @ www.sau43.org Please reference NSB Policy BEDH - Public Participation at Board Meetings - Persons appearing before the Board are reminded that members of the Board are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters. Thus, in most instances, any board response will be deferred pending consideration by the full Board. However, the Board reserves the right to meet and to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time to discuss such matters as are properly considered in non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3.1

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: New Board Member Applicants

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION _____ CONSENT: _____ INFORMATION: X

BACKGROUND:

Presentations by:
Aaron LeClair
Tyler Sullivan

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

MEETING MINUTES
The Newport School District/SAU43
603-865-9500 ~ www.sau43.nh.gov
Location and Time
Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center
243 N. Main St.~ Newport, New Hampshire 03773
September 10, 2026
5:30 PM

School Administration Present:

Interim Superintendent Robert Wargo
Business Administrator Katherine O'Connor
Director of Student Services Darlene Ayotte

School Board Members Present:

Nikki Murphy
Jessica Packard
Keith Sayer
Melissa Mitchler
Paul Brown

I. Call to Order - Roll Call: Nikki Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Nikki Murphy led the pledge of allegiance

III. Presentations:

a. Outdoor Library Presentation

- Title 1 Teacher Stephanie Severance, with Jameson Elwell spoke about the Outdoor Library. They applied on the little free library website and they got waitlisted. 3rd grade students help pick the application questions. They ended up being denied.
 - Nikki Murphy and her husband decided to build a little free library for the Richards School. They should be ready to install by next week.

IV. Public Comment

- a. The purpose of public comments is to give the residents of Newport the opportunity to address the Board. Any comments must be directed to the Chair. All people wishing to speak will come forward to the microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized to give their comments.*
- b. If there is no one else present wishing to speak a motion is in order to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation present and to table the remaining minutes for public comment to the end of the meeting for those that have not already spoken.*
- c. Response to Public Comment (Note: Motions limited to placing items on a future agenda)*

- **Jeff Kessler:** Commented on the LNA Program, expressing disappointment that the program is no longer offered in Newport and has been picked up by Claremont. He also asked about the Lou Thompson Community Room and noted that the room is not currently identified by that name. Interim Superintendent Wargo stated that the district is searching for the plaque. Kessler also stated that he is running for a seat in the New Hampshire House of Representatives and referenced proposed legislation related to local property taxes.
- **Lisa Ferrigno:** Raised concerns that members of the public attending in person are unable to hear speakers during public comment. She expressed appreciation for Melissa Mitchler's service as a School Board member and concern about the Board moving forward without her. Ferrigno noted that the Board may face challenges related to actions at the state level and thanked Mitchler for her

service to the Newport School Board and School District.

V. Adjustments to the Agenda

- ACTION: Track Torch from CanAm -\$2700
- ACTION: Approval of Melissa Mitchler's Resignation
- ***Motion made by Jessica. Seconded by Paul. 5-0-0. Motion Passed***
- Action F, should read as Support Staff Contract, not paraprofessional contract.
- INFORMATION G: McKinney-Vento
- ACTION: Approval of the school board appointment process, under policy.
- ***Motion was made to add G: McKinney Vento and School Board Appointment Process approval by Melissa. Seconded by Jessica. 5-0-0 Motion Passed***

VI. Approval of Minutes:

a. Minutes from School Board Meeting August 13, 2026

- ***Paul made a motion to approve the minutes, Jessica seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed***

VII. Student Representative Report

- No student representative

VIII. Consent Agenda:

a. AP Manifest page 17

1. 1020 - \$502,615.74
2. 1025 - \$87,606.87
3. AP Total - \$590,222.61

b. Payroll Manifest

1. 5 - \$6,978.84
2. 6 - \$35,782.48
3. 7 - \$171.44
4. 1015 - \$70,230.13
5. 1016 - \$28,390.22
6. 1017 - \$90,906.90
7. 1018 - \$1,100
8. 1019 - \$1,027
9. 1021 - \$90,763.54
10. 1022 - \$270,628.64
11. 1023 - \$2,566
12. 1024 - \$2,804.50
13. Payroll Total - \$601,349.69

- ***Paul made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Jessica seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.***

IX. Information:

a. CSB Foundation Donation for Base Program (\$2,500) page 18

- The district applied for this check and the district got it for the BASE Program.

b. Promising Futures Grant page 20

- Darlene Ayotte stated that this is a substance abuse prevention grant. They have applied for it and are waiting for the results. This would be for elementary and middle school programming.

c. Charter School conversation page 34

- Interim Superintendent Wargo addressed questions from Board members regarding Cornerstone

Charter School, which serves students in grades K–3 and currently has eight Newport students enrolled. He explained that charter schools undergo an extensive application process and that RSA 193 addresses charter schools. Cornerstone received authorization from the New Hampshire State Board of Education and receives its funding directly from the state.

- Mr. Wargo stated that he reached out to the school's principal to discuss how the two schools can work together as good neighbors. Newport School District currently provides transportation for Newport students attending Cornerstone. The District is also responsible for providing special education services to students with IEPs and is reimbursed for those services, but not for transportation costs.
- Melissa Mitchler asked about transportation on days when Newport School District is closed but Cornerstone remains open. It was noted that five students currently receive transportation and three students have IEPs.
- Ms. Mitchler also referenced the RSA requirement regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and noted that the matter was appealed by the state in June 2026. Darlene and the Cornerstone principal are currently working on the MOU.

d. Superintendent Hiring Committee page 35

- Melissa spoke about the Superintendent Hiring Committee. She stated that the group of hiring committee members has been really great and have hit the ground running. They will be meeting next week to rewrite the job description, application process questions, posting, and getting the ball moving. The board needs to think about the process if and when Interim Superintendent Wargo reapplies.

e. Special Education Budget - NHSEIS page 36

- Melissa had some questions about the Special Education Budget. The questions were around the hours that students are receiving. Melissa recommended that the board look for further special education reports during budget season.

f. Preschool page 37

- Interim Superintendent Wargo shared a document from 2018 to the board. There was a preschool committee that was formed. There are currently 24 students between the two preschool rooms. There is one lead teacher and 4 support staff.
 - Melissa asked who oversees the program: Answer: Darlene Ayotte.
 - It was asked who evaluates and monitors the staff: Answer: Building Administrators and Darlene. If it is a special education problem, they go to Darlene. If it is a building issue, staff go to the Building Administrators. Policy CF was cited.
 - It was asked how the current program is working: The lead preschool teacher spends their mornings with the 3 year old children and then after lunch, she will work with the four year olds. It is a 50/50 ratio for special education. Conversation pursued about the preschool program. RSA 170 -e, colon 2 was referenced. Melissa recommended that on the next agenda, that the board reassesses the preschool program that the district offers.
- g, McKinney-Vento: Melissa asked about disputes between parents in the district. The process starts with the liaison of the district. The appeal is filed with the superintendent and then the state makes a determination.

X. Action:

a. Approval Malool Foundation CTE Equipment Grant (\$28,615) page 38

- CTE Principal Sarah Fischer spoke about the grant. Kristie Howe and the Automotive Program Teacher applied for the grant. The current machine is out of date for standards. They were granted the full cost of the machine. ***A motion was made by Jessica. Keith seconded to approve the grant.***
 - Paul asked if this was a public hearing requirement. Kate answered that it is a grant so does not fall into that category.
 - ***Motion passed 5-0-0.***

b. Approval NHCF Winter Program Grant (\$15,700) page 41

- This grant was applied for by Richards Principal Michelle Overhoff for rentals and tickets for the winter program. **Jessica made the motion to approve. Keith seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed**

c. Approval NHCF Kindergarten Supplies Grant (\$12,000) page 46

- Christie Benoit at the Richards Elementary School applied for the grant over 12k. **Jessica made the motion. Keith seconded to approve the grant. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.**

d. Approval of Alice Peck Day Donation for Snack Closet (\$3,000) page 49

- **A motion was made to accept the snack closet donation by Jessica. Keith seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.**

e. Policy EFAB Staff Meal Charging page 51

- Kate O'Connor spoke with the NHSBA about how to write it out. She also went to the legal counsel. Kate is asking the board to approve the policy to get it out to the employees. **Jessica made the motion to approve as presented with first read. Melissa seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.**

f. Support Staff Contract Negotiation page 58

- Interim Superintendent Wargo stated that the contract is coming up. The 15th of September at 4:00pm is when the NSS is currently meeting. **Paul asked to move this to a non-meeting right after the conclusion of this meeting. Paul made the motion. Jessica seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.**
- Keith will fill Melissa's seat on the negotiation team.

g. Principal Goals page 59

- Interim Superintendent Wargo spoke about the principal goals presented to the board.
 - Shannon Martin spoke about her principal goals, as the Middle High School Principal. Her goals were: Strengthen instruction practice and student learning across the NMHS Building, NEASC Findings, Strengthen a positive, collaborative, and student-centered culture across the NMHS Building. These goals align with the district and the superintendent. CTE Principal Sarah Fischer spoke about her goals: Strengthen the quality and consistency of the CTE Instruction across programs, Contribute to the development and initial implementation of the School District Strategic Plan, Strengthen a Collaborative CTE Culture.

A motion was made to approve all principal goals by Jessica. Keith seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.

h. SOAR and Employee Handbooks page 60

- There was a revised SOAR and Employee Handbook presented to the board. **A motion was made by Jessica to approve the handbooks for employees and SOAR. Keith seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.**

i. Update and Finalize Board Evaluation page 141

- Melissa spoke that during the school board retreat, the board was unable to evaluate due to further information needed. The goal was to be 90% staffed. The district did not make it. The board's consent was to make it a development. Jessica was not at the retreat. The board evaluation is done. **A motion was made to approve the finalized board evaluation by Melissa. Keith seconded. 5-0-0. Motion Passed.**

j. Community Forum page 142

- Another goal for the board was to continue to do some community forums. It was suggested to get some dates scheduled. This was tabled until the next board meeting. **The motion was made to table the community forum discussion by Jessica. Melissa seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.**

k. Track Torch Donation:

- Sarah Fischer presented a donation from CanAm. They donate scrap metal to the CTE Program. CanAm gave the district a Track Torch at no cost. **A motion was made to approve this donation by Jessica. Keith seconded. 5-0-0 Motion Passed.**

l. Approval of Melissa Mitchler's Board Resignation. Melissa made the motion to approve, Paul seconded. 5-0-0. Motion Passed

m. Discussion on the application process for school board

- **Melissa made a motion that the board uses the current five questions, and that letters are sent**

the superintendent and the chair of interest, and the deadline to submit applications be moved to September 17, 2026. Jessica seconded.

- Melissa is asking for the deadline to be moved due to the resignation being approved at this meeting and to allow the public time to apply for the seat. It would still allow time for them to be added to the board document.
- **5-0-0 Motion Passed**

XI. Tabled Items

- None

XII. Personnel Reports

- Interim Superintendent Wargo presented a personnel report to the board. *A motion was made by Jessica. Keith seconded.*
 - *The motion was amended with the addition of the Dean position at Richards.*
 - Paul asked about transfers within the district. Kate stated they are waiting for forms.
 - **Motion Passed 5-0-0**

XIII. Committee Report Outs

- NONE

Public Comment:

NONE

XV. Superintendent Communications

a. Robert Wargo, Interim Superintendent

- Interim Superintendent Wargo spoke about sealed minutes for a 10 year cycle.
- A meeting was set up with the NHSBA with Mr. Wargo on the 16th of September.
- Interim Superintendent Mr. Wargo presented flowers to outgoing School Board Member Melissa Mitchler.

b. Kate O'Connor, Business Administrator

- The finance and facilities committee did meet for their first meeting. Kate is attending a meeting with the NHSBA to go over some bills that passed the state legislature on the 18th of September. She spoke about the unreserved fund balance and that the district has a large amount in HSA.

c. Darlene Ayotte, Director of Student Services

- She said that there have been a lot of IEP students who have moved into the district and the Special Education population is continuing to grow and moving into town.

XVI. Board Communications

- Nikki thanked Melissa for her hard work and dedication to the school board.
- Jessica echoed what Nikki stated.
- Keith thanked Lisa for speaking tonight. He stated that he likes to see Board Members finish their terms. He echoed earlier statements.
- Melissa spoke about the LNA Program. Newport has not had an LNA Program in years. The Newport CTE Program has had that opportunity to pursue the opportunity in many creative ways. She is happy that Claremont is having a live class during the school day. She spoke about the School Boards Newsletter that is in a draft stage.
- Paul thanked Melissa for her service to the board.

XVII. Items for Next Agenda

- Preschool - Half Day
- Tabled Item: Community Forums

XIX. Adjournment

- *A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Melissa at 736pm. Keith seconded. 5-0-0. Motion Passed.*

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: AP and Payroll Manifests

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION _____ **CONSENT:** X **INFORMATION:** _____

BACKGROUND:

AP:
1026 - \$187,721.97
1035 - \$ 19,289.92

AP Total: \$207,011.89

Payroll:
8 - \$19,889.71
9 - \$ 1,791.53
1027 - \$593.75
1028 - \$276,409.50
1029 - \$ 83,536.31
1030 - \$ 2,804.50
1031 - \$ 2,566.00
1032 - \$ 60.22
1033 - \$ 525.21
1034 - \$113,312.28

Payroll Total: \$499,489.01

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: Preschool

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION _____ CONSENT: _____ INFORMATION: X

BACKGROUND:

Mrs. Ayotte will present information regarding Preschool.

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: Auto donation

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION _____ CONSENT: _____ INFORMATION: X

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Wargo will provide information regarding an Auto donation to CTE.

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: Appoint new Board member for seat until March 2027

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION X CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: Policy IC - School Year

School Board MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION X CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT: None

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the School Board move to approve Policy IC and forward for second read and approval.

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IC

Category: *Recommended*

See Also /CA

SCHOOL YEAR

The school year shall be a minimum of 190 days, including a minimum of 180 instructional days for students and additional days for the teaching staff, emergency days, etc.

Any days that the schools are closed for emergency reasons will be made up at the end of the school year or during recess periods, as approved by the Board upon the Superintendent's recommendation. Under special circumstances the Board may request an exception to this requirement from the State Board of Education.

Alternatively, the school year may consist of the number of hours as required by New Hampshire Department of Education Rules. In the event schools are closed for excessive days for emergency reasons, the Superintendent may recommend to the School Board a revised schedule that satisfies all Department of Education requirements, but which may amend the number of days in the school year.

Legal References:

RSA 189:1, Days of School RSA

189:24, Standard School

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.18, School Year

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.19, School Calendar

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27 (q), High School Schedule for Seniors/Graduation

History :

**New Policy Newport School Board 1st Reading 5/13/2021 Approved
by the Newport School Board 5/27/2021**

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IC

Category: *Recommended*

See Also /CA

SCHOOL YEAR

~~The school year shall be a minimum of 190 days, including a minimum of 180 instructional days for students and additional days for the teaching staff, emergency days, etc.~~

~~Any days that the schools are closed for emergency reasons will be made up at the end of the school year or during recess periods, as approved by the Board upon the Superintendent's recommendation. Under special circumstances the Board may request an exception to this requirement from the State Board of Education.~~

~~Alternatively, the school year may consist of the number of hours as required by New Hampshire Department of Education Rules. In the event schools are closed for excessive days for emergency reasons, the Superintendent may recommend to the School Board a revised schedule that satisfies all Department of Education requirements, but which may amend the number of days in the school year.~~

A. School Year.

The student school year shall be a minimum of 180 instructional days or, alternatively, the equivalent number of hours as required in the rules of the N.H. Department of Education (see Ed 306.15).

The school year for teachers and other certified professionals shall be 185 days unless otherwise determined by the Board, applicable collective bargaining agreement, or individual contract.

The school year for support staff shall be 197 days unless otherwise determined by the Board, applicable collective bargaining agreement, or individual contract.

The school calendar will be established annually as described in **paragraph D** below.

B. School Closures.

Any days (beyond 5) that the schools are closed for emergency reasons and are not designated by the Superintendent as remote learning days (see paragraph C below) will be made up at the end of the school year or during recess periods, as approved by the Board upon the Superintendent's recommendation. Under special circumstances, the Board may request an exception to this requirement from the State Board of Education.

In the event schools are closed for excessive days for emergency reasons, the Superintendent may recommend to the School Board a revised schedule that satisfies all Department of Education requirements, but which may amend the number of days in the school year.

C. Remote Learning During Inclement Weather.

If inclement weather makes it unsafe to safely transport students to or from in-person instruction, the Superintendent/designee is authorized to designate that day as a remote learning day. Before remote instruction is used as instruction that day for the purpose of satisfying the minimum instructional day/hour requirements of the N.H. Department of Education, the Superintendent shall ensure that a plan exists with procedures to promote and allow for participation by all students in any affected school.

Prior to approving and designating a day as a remote instruction day, or any school/district-wide remote instruction that is dependent on technology, the Superintendent/designee will consider the impact that the inclement weather event might have on necessary technology.

Remote instruction will only count toward required instructional days/time when conducted in accordance with N.H. Dept. of Education Rule Ed 306.18. See also Board policy IMBA.

D. School Calendar.

The school calendar will be developed by the Superintendent and submitted to the Board by **January 15th**. The Board should approve the final calendar by **February 15th**. Any exceptions or revisions to the calendar thereafter must be approved in advance by the Board.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the calendar conforms to the number of actual days of instruction and employment as required by law, board policy, and staff contracts.

To the extent possible, the calendar will be coordinated with the school calendars of the applicable regional special education programs, and other districts in the SAU.

Additionally, the calendar must align with the calendar established by any applicable Regional Career and Technical Center Agreements (RCTEA), with exceptions only as allowed under RSA 188-E:1-a, III.

The high school graduation date shall be set no more than 5 school days or 30 instructional hours before the end of the scheduled school year. In the event that the number of days/hours lost to inclement weather exceeds 5 days/30 hours, the Superintendent shall confer with the New Hampshire Department of Education as to whether graduating students will be required to make up the lost days/hours. **[Endnote 1] 1 [Delete endnote] Former Ed 306.18(10)(4) was removed from the revised 306 rules, with no corresponding replacement. Accordingly, it is unclear what position NHED will take relative to graduation dates impacted by excessive snow/inclement weather days.**

E. Holidays.

Pursuant to RSA 288:4, III, any holiday included in the school calendar that corresponds to a State "legal" holiday shall use the name for such holiday as designated in RSA 288:1. As of 2024, these include: January 1, Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil Rights Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. All schools receiving State funds are required to observe Veterans Day. Additionally, such names shall be used on any "official" communication, publication, document or calendar.

Legal References:

RSA 189:1, Days of School RSA

189:24, Standard School

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.18, School Year

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.19, School Calendar

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27 (q), High School Schedule for Seniors/Graduation

History :

New Policy Newport School Board 1st Reading 5/13/2021

Approved by the Newport School Board 5/27/2021

New Policy Newport School Board 1st Reading

Approved by the Newport School Board

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IC

Category: Recommended

See Also /CA

SCHOOL YEAR

A. School Year.

The student school year shall be a minimum of 180 instructional days or, alternatively, the equivalent number of hours as required in the rules of the N.H. Department of Education (see Ed 306.15).

The school year for faculty and staff be determined by the Board, applicable collective bargaining agreement, or individual contract.

The school calendar will be established annually as described in paragraph D below.

B. School Closures

Any days (beyond 5) that the schools are closed for emergency reasons and are not designated by the Superintendent as remote learning days (see paragraph C below) will be made up at the end of the school year or during recess periods, as approved by the Board upon the Superintendent's recommendation. Under special circumstances, the Board may request an exception to this requirement from the State Board of Education.

In the event schools are closed for excessive days for emergency reasons, the Superintendent may recommend to the School Board a revised schedule that satisfies all Department of Education requirements, but which may amend the number of days in the school year.

C. Remote Learning

If school is closed for emergency reasons the Superintendent/designee is authorized to designate that day as a remote learning day. Before remote instruction is used as instruction that day for the purpose of satisfying the minimum instructional day/hour requirements of the N.H. Department of Education, the Superintendent shall ensure that a plan exists with procedures to promote and allow for participation by all students in any affected school.

Prior to approving and designating a day as a remote instruction day, or any school/district-wide remote instruction that is dependent on technology, the Superintendent/designee will consider the impact that the closure might have on necessary technology.

Remote instruction will only count toward required instructional days/time when conducted in accordance with N.H. Dept. of Education Rule Ed 306.18. See also Board policy IMBA.

D. School Calendar

The school calendar will be developed by the Superintendent and submitted to the Board by January 15th. The Board should approve the final calendar by February 15th. Any exceptions or revisions to the calendar thereafter must be approved in advance by the Board.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the calendar conforms to the number of actual days of instruction and employment as required by law, board policy, and staff contracts.

To the extent possible, the calendar will be coordinated with the school calendars of the applicable regional special education programs, and other districts in the SAU.

Additionally, the calendar must align with the calendar established by any applicable Regional Career and Technical Center Agreements (RCTEA), with exceptions only as allowed under RSA 188-E:1-a, III.

The high school graduation date shall be set no more than 5 school days or 30 instructional hours before the end of the scheduled school year. In the event that the number of days/hours lost to emergency closure exceeds 5 days/30 hours, the Superintendent shall confer with the New Hampshire Department of Education as to whether graduating students will be required to make up the lost days/hours.

E. Holidays

Pursuant to RSA 288:4, III, any holiday included in the school calendar that corresponds to a State "legal" holiday shall use the name for such holiday as designated in RSA 288:1. As of 2024, these include: January 1, Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil Rights Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. All schools receiving State funds are required to observe Veterans Day. Additionally, such names shall be used on any "official" communication, publication, document or calendar.

Legal References:

RSA 189:1, Days of School RSA

189:24, Standard School

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.18, School Year

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.19, School Calendar

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27 (q), High School Schedule for Seniors/Graduation

History:

New Policy Newport School Board 1st Reading 5/13/2021

Approved by the Newport School Board 5/27/2021

New Policy Newport School Board 1st Reading

Approved by the Newport School Board

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: Policy IGE - Parental Objections to Specific Course Materials

School Board MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION X CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT: None

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the School Board move to approve Policy IGE and forward for second read and approval.

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IGE

Category: Priority/Required by Law

PARENTAL OBJECTIONS TO SPECIFIC COURSE MATERIAL

The Board recognizes that there may be specific course materials which some parents/guardians find objectionable.

Parents and legal guardians shall be notified by e-mail, other written means, website/social media posting, or phone call not less than two (2) weeks in advance of use of the curriculum course material to be used for instruction of human sexuality or human sexual education, that the material is available for inspection at the school. The notice will identify and provide contact information for the member of staff or faculty a parent or guardian should contact to arrange an opportunity to inspect the curriculum course material.

The building Principal and the parent must mutually agree to the alternative instruction. The alternative instruction agreed upon must meet state minimum standards.

School District staff will make reasonable efforts, within the scope of existing time, schedules, resources and other duties, to accommodate alternative instruction for the student. Alternative instruction may be provided by the school, through approved independent study, or through other method agreed to by the parent/guardian and the building principal. Any cost associated with the alternative instruction shall be borne by the parent.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as giving parents/guardians the right to appeal to the School Board.

Parents who wish for particular instructional material be reviewed for appropriateness may submit a request for review in accordance with Board Policy KEC or IHAM.

In accordance with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights statute, as a School District that receives federal Department of Education funds, the Superintendent shall develop procedures to allow parent/guardian of a student to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student. The procedures will provide reasonable access to instructional material within a reasonable period of time after the request is received.

Legal References:

*RSA 186:11, IX-c & IX-e State Board of Education; Duties.
20 U.S.C §1232h, (c)(1)(C), Protection of pupil rights*

History:

Newport School Board 1st Reading 6/7/12

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 6/28/12

Newport School Board Re-adoption 10/22/15

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/18

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 11/15/18

Policy Updated 1/8/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading 1/9/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 1/23/2020

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IGE

Category: Priority/Required by Law

PARENTAL OBJECTIONS TO SPECIFIC COURSE MATERIAL

The Board recognizes that there may be specific course materials which some parents/guardians find objectionable.

~~Parents and legal guardians shall be notified by e-mail, other written means, website/social media posting, or phone call not less than two (2) weeks in advance of use of the curriculum course material to be used for instruction of human sexuality or human sexual education, that the material is available for inspection at the school. The notice will identify and provide contact information for the member of staff or faculty a parent or guardian should contact to arrange an opportunity to inspect the curriculum course material.~~

In the event a parent/guardian finds specific course material objectionable, the parent/guardian may notify the building Principal of the specific material to which they object and request that the student receive alternative instruction, sufficient to enable the child to meet state requirements for education in the particular subject area. This notification and request shall be in writing a minimum of two weeks in advance of any objectionable course material. Any reasons given for an objection to material shall remain confidential. The building Principal and the parent must mutually agree to the alternative instruction. The alternative instruction agreed upon must meet state minimum standards.

The building Principal and the parent/guardian must mutually agree to the alternative instruction. The alternative instruction agreed upon must meet state requirements for education in the particular subject area.

School District staff will make reasonable efforts, within the scope of existing time, schedules, resources and other duties, to accommodate alternative instruction for the student. Alternative instruction may be provided by the school, through approved independent study, or through other method agreed to by the parent/guardian and the building principal. Any cost associated with the alternative instruction shall be borne by the parent.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as giving parents/guardians the right to appeal to the School Board.

Parents/~~guardians~~ who wish for particular instructional material be reviewed for appropriateness may submit a request for review in accordance with Board Policy KEC or IHAM.

In accordance with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights statute, as a School District that receives federal Department of Education funds, the Superintendent shall develop procedures to allow parent/guardian of a student to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student. The procedures will provide

reasonable access to instructional material ~~within a reasonable period of time after the request is received.~~ Promptly (as is reasonable under the circumstances).

NOTE regarding human sexuality and human sexual education: In addition to the protections under this policy, per RSA 186:11, IX-c and Board policy IHAM, parents/guardians are afforded additional affirmative rights with respect to instruction or program of human sexuality, human sexual education, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression, including, among other things, the right to receive a minimum of 2 weeks advance notice of any curriculum course material to be used with respect to such instruction or program. Such notice will be delivered via email, other direct written means, website/social media posting, or phone call. As indicated in RSA 186:11, IX-c, no notice is required if the District employee is responding to a question from a student during class.

Legal References:

RSA 186:11, IX-b and IX-c & IX-e
RSA 193:40
20 U.S.C §1232h, (c)(1)(C),

State Board of Education; Duties.
Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination
Protection of pupil rights

History:

Newport School Board 1st Reading 6/7/12

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 6/28/12

Newport School Board Re-adoption 10/22/15

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/18

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 11/15/18

Policy Updated 1/8/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading 1/9/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 1/23/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IGE

Category: Priority/Required by Law

PARENTAL OBJECTIONS TO SPECIFIC COURSE MATERIAL

The Board recognizes that there may be specific course materials which some parents/guardians find objectionable.

In the event a parent/guardian finds specific course material objectionable, the parent/guardian may notify the building Principal of the specific material to which they object and request that the student receive alternative instruction, sufficient to enable the child to meet state requirements for education in the particular subject area. This notification and request shall be in writing. Parent/Guardian names and any reasons given for an objection to material shall not be public information.

The building Principal and the parent/guardian must mutually agree to the alternative instruction. The alternative instruction agreed upon must meet state requirements for education in the particular subject area.

School District staff will make reasonable efforts, within the scope of existing time, schedules, resources and other duties, to accommodate alternative instruction for the student. Alternative instruction may be provided by the school, through approved independent study, or through other method agreed to by the parent/guardian and the building principal. Any cost associated with the alternative instruction shall be borne by the parent.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as giving parents/guardians the right to appeal to the School Board.

Parents/guardians who wish for particular instructional material be reviewed for appropriateness may submit a request for review in accordance with Board Policy KEC.

In accordance with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights statute, as a School District that receives federal Department of Education funds, the Superintendent shall develop procedures to allow parent/guardian of a student to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student. The procedures will provide reasonable access to instructional material promptly (as is reasonable under the circumstances).

NOTE regarding human sexuality and human sexual education: In addition to the protections under this policy, per RSA 186:11, IX-c and Board policy IHAM, parents/guardians are afforded additional affirmative rights with respect to instruction or program of human sexuality, human sexual education, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression, including, among other things, the right to receive a minimum of 2 weeks advance notice of any curriculum course material to be used with respect to such instruction or program. Such notice will be delivered via email, other direct written means, website/social media posting, or phone call. As indicated in RSA 186:11, IX-c, no

notice is required if the District employee is responding to a question from a student during class.

Legal References:

RSA 186:11, IX-b and IX-c & IX-e

RSA 193:40

20 U.S.C §1232h, (c)(1)(C),

State Board of Education; Duties.

Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination

Protection of pupil rights

History:

Newport School Board 1st Reading 6/7/12

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 6/28/12

Newport School Board Re-adoption 10/22/15

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/18

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 11/15/18

Policy Updated 1/8/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading 1/9/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 1/23/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: Policy IHBA - Programs for Pupils with Disabilities

School Board MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION ____X____ CONSENT:____ INFORMATION: ____

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT: None

FISCAL VERIFICATION: ____

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the School Board move to approve Policy IHBA and forward for second read and approval.

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IHBA

Category: Recommended

See also JICD

PROGRAMS FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

The District shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, required under the Individuals With Disabilities Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act.

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled under Section 504 criteria of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require special education services under IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the district shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in state statutes, which governs special education.

For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the district shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. This system shall include notice and an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/ guardian(s) to examine relevant records, and impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the students' parent(s)/guardian(s), and representation by counsel, and review procedure. For more information, contact the school principal or guidance department.

The district recognizes its obligation to provide an education for all students determined to be educationally disabled and in need of special education and related services. This obligation shall begin when a student reaches three years of age and shall continue until the student's 21st birthday or until such time as he/she receives a high school diploma, whichever occurs first, or until the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team determines that the child no longer requires special education in accordance with federal and state law. At the discretion of the Superintendent and/or his/her designee, students who reach the age of 21 during the academic year may be allowed to complete the remainder of the school year.

Legal References:

20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
34 C.F.R. § 300 et seq., Assistance to the States for the Education of Children with Disabilities
RSA 186-C, Special Education
N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 1100, Standards for the Education of Students With Disabilities

History:

Policy Committee: April 23, 2007
First Reading: May 10, 2007
Second Reading & Approval June 28, 2007
Newport School Board 1st read 10/26/17
Newport School Board 2nd read and Adopted 12/14/17
Update to Policy 10/17/19
Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/24/19
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 12/5/19

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IHBA

Category: Recommended

See also AC,

*AC-R(2), ACE, IHBA, IHBAB, IHBAC,
IHBAM, IKF, IKFC, JICD, JICD-R(1), JICK*

PROGRAMS FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

A. PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The District shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, required under the Individuals With Disabilities Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), and Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act (IDEA).

Disabilities are defined differently under the IDEA than under Section 504 and Title II. While the IDEA focuses on special educational services for children with disabilities and the related rights afforded to eligible students and their parents, Section 504 and Title II focus on the focus on the nondiscrimination rights of students as well as other individuals with disabilities who are not students, such as family members with disabilities, and members of the public with disabilities seeking information from, or access to, the services, programs, and activities of the public school. Such rights can include the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services that are designed to meet the individual educational needs of students with disabilities as adequately as the needs of non-disabled students are met.

While all students who are eligible for special education and related services under the IDEA are protected by Section 504 and Title II, not all students protected by Section 504 and Title II are eligible for services under the IDEA. In other words, students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 and Title II even though they do not requires services and specially designed instruction pursuant to the IDEA.

An IDEA-eligible student is entitled to receive special education and related services when the student reaches three years of age and continues until the student's 22nd birthday or until such time as he/she receives a regular high school diploma, whichever occurs first, or until the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team determines that the student no longer requires special education in accordance with federal and state law. At the discretion of the Superintendent and/or his/her designee, students who reach the age of 22 during the academic year may be allowed to complete the remainder of the school year.

~~It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled under Section 504 criteria of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not~~

~~require special education services under IDEA.~~

~~For students eligible for services under IDEA, the district shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in state statutes, which governs special education.~~

~~For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the district shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. This system shall include notice and an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, and impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the students' parent(s)/guardian(s), and representation by counsel, and review procedure. For more information, contact the school principal or guidance department.~~

~~The district recognizes its obligation to provide an education for all students determined to be educationally disabled and in need of special education and related services. This obligation shall begin when a student reaches three years of age and shall continue until the student's 21st birthday or until such time as he/she receives a high school diploma, whichever occurs first, or until the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team determines that the child no longer requires special education in accordance with federal and state law. At the discretion of the Superintendent and/or his/her designee, students who reach the age of 21 during the academic year may be allowed to complete the remainder of the school year.~~

B. NOTICE OF PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

1. **IDEA SAFEGUARDS.** For IDEA-eligible students, the District utilizes the New Hampshire Special Education Procedural Safeguards, which can be accessed through the New Hampshire Department of Education website or obtained from the District's *Student Services Office*.

The District will provide a copy of New Hampshire Procedural Safeguards in Special Education to the parents/guardians of a child with a disability one time per year. This is typically done at each annual IEP team meeting. A copy shall also be given to the parents:

- a. Upon initial referral or parent request for evaluation;
- b. Upon receipt of the first request for a due process hearing filed in a school year;
- c. Upon receipt of the first State complaint in a school year;
- d. Upon request by a parent; and
- e. In accordance with the discipline procedures in §300.530(h).

Education Policy and Procedures Manual, a copy of which is available through that office.

2. SECTION 504 SAFEGUARDS. For procedural safeguards relative to Section 504, the District utilizes the “Notice of Parent and Student Rights Under Section 504”, an administrative document coded as IHBA-R.

The Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee shall assure that the Notice of Parent and Student Rights Under Section 504 is updated annually to reflect current contact information consistent with the annual update of policy ACE. The District shall provide a copy of the Notice of Parent and Student Rights Under Section 504 to the parents/guardians of a child with a disability one time per year. This is typically done at each Section 504 team meeting.

Legal References:

20 U.S.C. § 1400-1417 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Law
29 U.S.C 794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
42 U.S.C 12101, et seq., Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
34 CFR 104, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap
34 C.F.R. § 300 et seq., Assistance to the States for the Education of Children with Disabilities
RSA 186-C, Special Education
RSA 186-C:10-a, Retention of Individualized Education Programs
N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 1100, Standards for the Education of Students With Disabilities

History:

Policy Committee: April 23, 2007
First Reading: May 10, 2007
Second Reading & Approval June 28, 2007
Newport School Board 1st read 10/26/17
Newport School Board 2nd read and Adopted 12/14/17
Update to Policy 10/17/19
Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/24/19
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 12/5/19
Newport School Board 1st Reading
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IHBA

Category: Recommended

See also AC,

AC-R(2), ACE, IHBAA, IHBAB, IHBAC,

IHBAM, IKF, IKFC, JICD, JICD-R(1), JICK

PROGRAMS FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

A. PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The District shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, required under the Individuals With Disabilities Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), and Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act (IDEA).

Disabilities are defined differently under the IDEA than under Section 504 and Title II. While the IDEA focuses on special educational services for children with disabilities and the related rights afforded to eligible students and their parents, Section 504 and Title II focus on the nondiscrimination rights of students as well as other individuals with disabilities who are not students, such as family members with disabilities, and members of the public with disabilities seeking information from, or access to, the services, programs, and activities of the public school. Such rights can include the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services that are designed to meet the individual educational needs of students with disabilities as adequately as the needs of non-disabled students are met.

While all students who are eligible for special education and related services under the IDEA are protected by Section 504 and Title II, not all students protected by Section 504 and Title II are eligible for services under the IDEA. In other words, students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 and Title II even though they do not require services and specially designed instruction pursuant to the IDEA.

An IDEA-eligible student is entitled to receive special education and related services when the student reaches three years of age and continues until the student's **22nd** birthday or until such time as he/she receives a regular high school diploma, whichever occurs first, or until the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team determines that the student no longer requires special education in accordance with federal and state law. At the discretion of the Superintendent and/or his/her designee, students who reach the age of **22** during the academic year may be allowed to complete the remainder of the school year.

B. NOTICE OF PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

1. **IDEA SAFEGUARDS**. For IDEA-eligible students, the District utilizes the New Hampshire Special Education Procedural Safeguards, which can be accessed through [938](#)

the New Hampshire Department of Education website or obtained from the District's *Student Services Office*.

The District will provide a copy of New Hampshire Procedural Safeguards in Special Education to the parents/guardians of a child with a disability one time per year. This is typically done at each annual IEP team meeting. A copy shall also be given to the parents:

- a. Upon initial referral or parent request for evaluation;
- b. Upon receipt of the first request for a due process hearing filed in a school year;
- c. Upon receipt of the first State complaint in a school year;
- d. Upon request by a parent; and
- e. In accordance with the discipline procedures in §300.530(h).

Further information regarding special education procedures and services is available through the District *Student Services Office*, and in the District's Special Education Policy and Procedures Manual, a copy of which is available through that office.

2. **SECTION 504 SAFEGUARDS**. For procedural safeguards relative to Section 504, the District utilizes the "Notice of Parent and Student Rights Under Section 504", an administrative document coded as IHBA-R.

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall assure that the Notice of Parent and Student Rights Under Section 504 is updated annually to reflect current contact information consistent with the annual update of policy ACE. The District shall provide a copy of the Notice of Parent and Student Rights Under Section 504 to the parents/guardians of a child with a disability one time per year. This is typically done at each Section 504 team meeting.

Legal References:

20 U.S.C. § 1400-1417 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Law
29 U.S.C 794, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
42 U.S.C 12101, et seq., Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
34 CFR 104, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap
34 C.F.R. § 300 et seq., Assistance to the States for the Education of Children with Disabilities
RSA 186-C, Special Education
RSA 186-C:10-a, Retention of Individualized Education Programs

Proposed

*N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 1100, Standards for the
Education of Students With Disabilities*

History:

Policy Committee: April 23, 2007

First Reading: May 10, 2007

Second Reading & Approval June 28, 2007

Newport School Board 1st read 10/26/17

Newport School Board 2nd read and Adopted 12/14/17

Update to Policy 10/17/19

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/24/19

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 12/5/19

Newport School Board 1st Reading

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: IHBG Home Education Instruction & Access to Curricular and Co-Curricular Programs

School Board MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION X CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the School Board move to approve Policy IHBG and forward for second read and approval.

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IHBG

Category: Recommended

See Also JEA, JG, JH, JJJ & IHBG-R

HOME EDUCATION INSTRUCTION & ACCESS TO CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Home Education is an alternative to compulsory attendance at a public or private school and is an individualized form of instruction in accordance with New Hampshire RSA 193-A and Department of Education Rule Part 315 ("Ed. 315"). A parent or guardian may establish a home education program for any child between the ages six (6) and eighteen (18) years of age including one who is an "educationally disabled child" as defined under RSA 186-C:2, I, whether or not such child is previously enrolled in a school of the District.

A. Notices Required for Commencement of Home Education Program.

1. Notice For Students Withdrawing from District.

State school attendance laws apply to each student until a parent/guardian commences a home education program. Similarly, the District's attendance policies apply to all students enrolled in schools of the District.

Accordingly, when a parent/guardian of a child who is enrolled in a school of the District wishes to begin a home education program for the child, Ed. Rule 315.04 (e) requires that on or before the date the home education program begins, the parent/guardian must advise the Superintendent of the child's withdrawal from the District. The notice of withdrawal may be made in person, via telephone or in writing, at the parent/guardian's election.

2. Written Notice of Program Required.

In addition to the less formal notice required for a child being withdrawn from the District, RSA 193-A and Ed. 315 both require that the parent/guardian provide written notice of the commencement of a home education program either (at the parent/guardian's election) to the New Hampshire Department of Education, the Superintendent of the resident district, or to any non-public school principal.

The requirements of the notice are set forth in RSA 193-A:5 and Ed. 315.04, both of which can be accessed through the New Hampshire Department of Education's website.

Upon request, the Superintendent shall assist the parent/guardian to assure that the notification complies with the statutory requirements.

3. No Annual Notice Required.

Once established, the home education program remains in effect unless

terminated pursuant Ed. 315.04 (k). The parent/guardian is not required to provide annual notification of continuation of a home education program.

B. Evaluation & Assessment.

Under RSA 193-A:6, II, parents/guardians are required to provide for an annual educational evaluation for home educated children that documents "educational progress at a level commensurate with the child's age and ability." Both the statute and Ed. 315.07 provide several options for parents/guardians to meet the statutory evaluation requirements. Some of the evaluation options available to parents/guardians under that statute and rules can involve District/Superintendent assistance, including, for instance, any state student assessment used by the District, or any other "valid" measurement tool mutually agreed upon by the parent/guardian and the Superintendent. Other options are available to parents/guardians as provided under RSA 193-A:6 and/or Ed. 315.07.

Parents/guardians seeking to utilize evaluation services through the Superintendent, should contact the Superintendent's office as soon as practicable to assure adequate time to prepare any necessary materials and accommodations.

No fee will be required by the District when a parent uses evaluation services provided by the District.*

**NOTE: RSA 193-A:7, II (a), and Ed. 315.07 (c) each allow a parent/guardian to enter into an agreement for evaluation services with a certified teacher or a teacher teaching in a non-public school. When a parent/guardian chooses to independently contract with an individual teacher to perform evaluation services, the teacher may charge any fee agreed upon by the teacher and the parent/guardian, notwithstanding whether the teacher is also employed by the District. The District shall not be responsible for the evaluation services, nor shall the District receive any part of the fee agreed to between the teacher and the parent/guardian.*

C. Records.

The District shall maintain documents concerning home education programs in a manner consistent with other educational records. Additionally, the Superintendent shall maintain a list of all home education programs for which the Superintendent, as participating agency, has received notice. On October 1 of each year, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of the number of children for whom programs were established.

RSA 193-A:6, I requires the parent/guardian to maintain a portfolio of records and materials relative to the home education program. The portfolio shall consist of a log which designates by title the reading materials used, and also samples of writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by the child. The parent/guardian is required to preserve the portfolio for 2 years from the date of the ending of the instruction.

For evaluations which are not provided by the District, parents/guardians need only provide copies to the District to the extent necessary to demonstrate proficiency in order to participate in school programs, and co/extra-curricular activities as provided

under RSA 193-A:6, III.

D. Re-enrollment into the School District.

Parents/Guardians deciding to re-enroll their children into the District following a period of home education will make arrangements with the Principal for an evaluation to determine appropriate placement in the District's program. Placements will be consistent with the School Board policy governing student placements and are subject to the same appeal process.

Parents/Guardians should be attentive that when re-enrolling a student, there may be discrepancies between the home schooling level of achievement and the scope and sequence of the District's curriculum.

E. Graduation/Diplomas.

The School Board will not award certificates or diplomas to home educated students. Students must enter the regular school program and complete all necessary graduation requirements of the District and the State to be eligible for a certificate or diploma.

F. Participation in school curricular and co/extra-curricular activities.

Regulations regarding the participation of home education students (as well as students of non-public or of public charter schools) in District curricular and co/extra-curricular programs are established in Appendix IHBG-R. The Superintendent is charged with establishing such regulations. Consistent with RSA 193:1-c, any regulations shall not be more restrictive for non-public or home educated pupils than they are for students enrolled in the District.

Legal References:

RSA 193-A, Home Education

RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil

RSA 193:1-a, Dual Enrollment

RSA 193:1-c, Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic or Home Educated Pupils

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 315, Procedures for the Operation of Home Education Programs

History:

Policy Committee Review 11/21/13

Policy Committee Review 1/23/14

Newport School Board 1st Reading (to replace LBD) 4/10/14

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval (to replace LBD) 6/4/14

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/18

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 11/15/18

Policy updated 1/8/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading 1/9/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 1/23/2020

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IHBG

Category: Recommended

See Also AC, IK, JFAA, JJA, JEA, JG, JH, & JJJ & IHBG-R

HOME EDUCATION INSTRUCTION & ACCESS TO CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Home Education is an alternative to compulsory attendance at a public or private school and is an individualized form of instruction in accordance with New Hampshire RSA 193-A and Department of Education Rule Part 315 ("Ed. 315"). ~~A parent or guardian may establish a home education program for any child between the ages six (6) and eighteen (18) years of age including one who is an "educationally disabled child" as defined under RSA 186-C:2, I, whether or not such child is previously enrolled in a school of the District.~~ Parents or guardians may establish a home education program for any child, including one who is an "educationally disabled child" as defined under RSA 186-C:2, I, whether or not such child is previously enrolled in a school of the District. When and how parents/guardians determine to commence a home education program, and other choices the parents/guardians make, determine whether and the extent to which the District will have responsibilities relative to the home educated child(ren).

This policy is intended to help District personnel and home education families within the District understand those responsibilities based upon the family's choices. Nothing in this policy, however, should be understood to infringe upon the parent's/guardian's right under the applicable statutes or Department of Education rules.

A. Parent/Guardian Selection of a Participating Agency.

1. Selection of a Participating Agency. One of the most significant decisions the parents/guardians make relative to a home education program is the selection of a "participating agency" for home education program notification and support. This decision will also largely govern the District's obligations during the home education program.

The parent/guardian decides which participating agency to select, from the following:

- a. The Commissioner of the Department of Education;
- b. The resident district Superintendent ("District"); or
- c. The head of a nonpublic school.

The selected participating agency shall work with the parents/guardians upon request to meet the essential requirements of a home education program as set out in RSA 193-A:4, I.

2. Changing Participating Agency. At any time, the parents/guardians may select a different, valid, participating agency. To do so, the parents/guardians must provide notice to the new participating agency in the same manner as outlined in Section B.2, below.
3. District Obligations Relative to Selection of Participating Agency. If the selected participating agency is the resident district Superintendent, the District shall provide evaluation services as discussed in Section C, below. If the resident district Superintendent is *not* selected as the participating agency, the District may, but is not obligated to, provide evaluation services. However, the District shall, “work with parents ***upon request*** to meet the requirements of [RSA 193-A:4]. (See RSA 193-A:4, II, emphasis added.)

B. Notices Required for Commencement of Home Education Program.

1. **Notice For Students Withdrawing from District.** - State school attendance laws apply to each student until a parent/guardian commences a home education program. Similarly, the District's attendance policies apply to all students enrolled in schools of the District.

Accordingly, when a parent/guardian of a child who is enrolled in a school of the District wishes to begin a home education program for the child, Ed. Rule ~~315.04 (e)~~ **315.05 (b)** requires that on or before the date the home education program begins, the parent/guardian must advise the Superintendent of the child's withdrawal from the District. The notice of withdrawal may be made in person, via telephone or in writing, at the parent/guardian's election.

2. **Written Notice of Program Required.** - In addition to the less formal notice required for a child being withdrawn from the District, RSA 193-A and Ed. 315 both require that the parent/guardian provide written notice of the commencement of a home education program ~~either (at the parent/guardian's election) to the New Hampshire Department of Education, the Superintendent of the resident district, or to any non-public school principal.~~ **to the selected participating agency. The District only receives this notice if the parents/guardians are selecting the Superintendent as the participating agency.**

The only information required in this written notice of commencement is

listed in RSA 193-A:5, II: the names, addresses, and birth dates of all children who are participating in the home education program. The parents/guardians shall also provide contact information and update the notification information as necessary. If selected by the parents/guardians as the participating agency, the Superintendent of the resident district shall acknowledge receipt of the notification of commencement of home education within 14 days of receiving such notification, along with a request for any information required by RSA 193-A:5, II that was not included in the original notice.

~~The requirements of the notice are set forth in RSA 193-A:5 and Ed. 315.04, both of which can be accessed through the New Hampshire Department of Education's website.~~

~~Upon request, the Superintendent shall assist the parent/guardian to assure that the notification complies with the statutory requirements.~~

- 3. No Annual Notice Required** - Once established, the home education program remains in effect unless terminated pursuant Ed. 315.04 (k)~~315.06~~. The parent/guardian is not required to provide annual notification of continuation of a home education program.

C. Evaluation & Assessment.

Under RSA 193-A:6, II, parents/guardians are required to provide for an annual educational evaluation for home educated children that documents "educational progress at a level commensurate with the child's age and ability." Both the statute and Ed. 315.07~~8~~ provide several options for parents/guardians to meet the statutory evaluation requirements, **and the parents/guardians are free to select their preferred method.** ~~Some of the evaluation options available to parents/guardians under that statute and rules can involve District/Superintendent assistance, including, for instance, any state student assessment used by the District, or any other "valid" measurement tool mutually agreed upon by the parent/guardian and the Superintendent. Other options are available to parents/guardians as provided under RSA 193-A:6 and/or Ed. 315.07.~~

~~Parents/guardians seeking to utilize evaluation services through the Superintendent, should contact the Superintendent's office as soon as practicable to assure adequate time to prepare any necessary materials and accommodations.~~

~~No fee will be required by the District when a parent uses evaluation services provided by the District.*~~

~~*NOTE: RSA 193-A:7, II (a), and Ed. 315.07 (c) each allow a parent/guardian to enter into an agreement for evaluation services with a certified teacher or a teacher teaching in a non-public school. When a parent/guardian chooses to independently contract with an individual teacher to perform evaluation services, the teacher may charge any fee agreed upon by the teacher and the parent/guardian, notwithstanding whether the teacher is also employed by the District. The District~~

~~shall not be responsible for the evaluation services, nor shall the District receive any part of the fee agreed to between the teacher and the parent/guardian.~~

1. Parents/guardians seeking to utilize evaluation services through the District should contact the Superintendent's office as soon as practicable to ensure adequate time to prepare any necessary materials and accommodations.

While the parent/guardian may select any evaluation method outlined in RSA 193-A:6, II, as well as any other method agreed to by the parent/guardian and the participating agency, two methods merit further note:

- a. State or Local Assessment Provided by the District. If the evaluation method is a state or local assessment provided by the District, the parent/guardian must notify the Superintendent in writing as soon as practicable to provide the District adequate time to prepare and obtain the testing materials and prepare any necessary accommodations. Under this election, the District will not charge a fee for providing or administering the test. Reasonable academic proficiency is deemed demonstrated if the composite results place the child at or above the fortieth percentile.
 - b. Portfolio Review. If the District is the selected participating agency, the parent/guardian may request the District to perform a portfolio review, for which the District may charge a fee.
 - c. Other "Valid Measurement Tool". When the Superintendent is the participating agency, the parent/guardian and Superintendent may mutually agree upon any other valid measurement tool(s). A non-exclusive list of examples may be found in Ed 315.08(e).
2. Evaluation Independent of the District. As outlined in RSA 193-A:6, II, the parent/guardian may collaborate with the participating agency to find a mutually agreed upon method of evaluation as described in Ed 315.08(d) - (f).

D. Reports and Records.

~~The District shall maintain documents concerning home education programs in a manner consistent with other educational records. Additionally, the Superintendent shall maintain a list of all home education programs for which the Superintendent, as~~

~~participating agency, has received notice. On October 1 of each year, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of the number of children for whom programs were established.~~

1. **Parent/Guardian Requirements** - RSA 193-A:6, I requires the parent/guardian to maintain a portfolio of records and materials relative to the home education program. The portfolio shall consist of a log which designates by title the reading materials used, and also samples of writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by the child. ~~The parent/guardian is required to preserve the portfolio for 2 years from the date of the ending of the instruction.~~ Such portfolio, **which at all times remains the property of the parent**, shall be preserved by the parent for 2 years from the date of the ending of the instruction.

Parents/guardians need only provide the evaluation results/portfolio to the District to the extent necessary to demonstrate proficiency in order to participate in school programs, and co/extra-curricular activities as provided under RSA 193-A:6, III, and Ed 315.07(b).

~~For evaluations which are not provided by the District, parents/guardians need only provide copies to the District to the extent necessary to demonstrate proficiency in order to participate in school programs, and co/extra-curricular activities as provided under RSA 193-A:6, III.~~

E. Re-enrollment into the School District.

Parents/Guardians deciding to re-enroll their children into the District following a period of home education will make arrangements with the Principal for an evaluation to determine appropriate placement in the District's program. Placements will be consistent with **section B of the School Board policy JJJ governing home education and other non-enrolled district student program placements**, and are subject to the same appeal process.

Parents/Guardians should be attentive that when re-enrolling a student, there may be discrepancies between the home schooling level of achievement and the scope and sequence of the District's curriculum.

F. Graduation/Diplomas.

The School Board will not award certificates or diplomas to home educated students. Students must enter the regular school program and complete all necessary graduation requirements of the District and the State to be eligible for a certificate or diploma.

G. Participation in school curricular and co/extra-curricular activities.

Regulations regarding the participation of home education students (as well as students of non-public or of public charter schools) in District curricular and co/extra-curricular programs ~~are established in Appendix IHBG-R. The Superintendent is charged with establishing such regulations. Consistent with RSA 193:1-c, any regulations shall not be more restrictive for non-public or home educated pupils than they are for students enrolled in the District.~~ **is found in Board policy JJJ.**

Legal References:

RSA 193-A, Home Education

RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil

RSA 193:1-a, Dual Enrollment

RSA 193:1-c, Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic or Home Educated Pupils

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 315, Procedures for the Operation of Home Education Programs

History:

Policy Committee Review 11/21/13

Policy Committee Review 1/23/14

Newport School Board 1st Reading (to replace LBD) 4/10/14

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval (to replace LBD) 6/4/14

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/18

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 11/15/18

Policy updated 1/8/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading 1/9/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 1/23/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IHBG

Category: Recommended

See Also AC, IK, JFAA, JJA, JEA, JG, JH, & JJJ & IHBG-R

HOME EDUCATION INSTRUCTION & ACCESS TO CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Home Education is an alternative to compulsory attendance at a public or private school and is an individualized form of instruction in accordance with New Hampshire RSA 193-A and Department of Education Rule Part 315 ("Ed. 315"). Parents or guardians may establish a home education program for any child, including one who is an "educationally disabled child" as defined under RSA 186-C:2, I, whether or not such child is previously enrolled in a school of the District. When and how parents/guardians determine to commence a home education program, and other choices the parents/guardians make, determine whether and the extent to which the District will have responsibilities relative to the home educated child(ren).

This policy is intended to help District personnel and home education families within the District understand those responsibilities based upon the family's choices. Nothing in this policy, however, should be understood to infringe upon the parent's/guardian's right under the applicable statutes or Department of Education rules.

A. Parent/Guardian Selection of a Participating Agency.

1. Selection of a Participating Agency. One of the most significant decisions the parents/guardians make relative to a home education program is the selection of a "participating agency" for home education program notification and support. This decision will also largely govern the District's obligations during the home education program.

The parent/guardian decides which participating agency to select, from the following:

- a. The Commissioner of the Department of Education;
- b. The resident district Superintendent ("District"); or
- c. The head of a nonpublic school.

The selected participating agency shall work with the parents/guardians upon

request to meet the essential requirements of a home education program as set out in RSA 193-A:4, I.

2. Changing Participating Agency. At any time, the parents/guardians may select a different, valid, participating agency. To do so, the parents/guardians must provide notice to the new participating agency in the same manner as outlined in Section B.2, below.
3. District Obligations Relative to Selection of Participating Agency. If the selected participating agency is the resident district Superintendent, the District shall provide evaluation services as discussed in Section C, below. If the resident district Superintendent is *not* selected as the participating agency, the District may, but is not obligated to, provide evaluation services. However, the District shall, “work with parents *upon request* to meet the requirements of [RSA 193-A:4]. (See RSA 193-A:4, II, emphasis added.)

B. Notices for Commencement of Home Education Program.

1. **Notice For Students Withdrawing from District.** - State school attendance laws apply to each student until a parent/guardian commences a home education program. Similarly, the District's attendance policies apply to all students enrolled in schools of the District.

Accordingly, when a parent/guardian of a child who is enrolled in a school of the District wishes to begin a home education program for the child, Ed. Rule 315.05 (b) requires that on or before the date the home education program begins, the parent/guardian must advise the Superintendent of the child's withdrawal from the District. The notice of withdrawal may be made in person, via telephone or in writing, at the parent/guardian's election.

2. **Written Notice of Program Required.** - In addition to the less formal notice required for a child being withdrawn from the District, RSA 193-A and Ed. 315 both require that the parent/guardian provide written notice of the commencement of a home education program to the selected participating agency. The District only receives this notice if the parents/guardians are selecting the Superintendent as the participating agency.

The only information required in this written notice of commencement is listed in RSA 193-A:5, II: the names, addresses, and birth dates of all children who are participating in the home education program. The parents/guardians shall also provide contact information and update the

notification information as necessary. If selected by the parents/guardians as the participating agency, the Superintendent of the resident district shall acknowledge receipt of the notification of commencement of home education within 14 days of receiving such notification, along with a request for any information required by RSA 193-A:5, II that was not included in the original notice.

- 3. No Annual Notice Required** - Once established, the home education program remains in effect unless terminated pursuant Ed. 315.06. The parent/guardian is not required to provide annual notification of continuation of a home education program.

C. Evaluation & Assessment.

Under RSA 193-A:6, II, parents/guardians are required to provide for an annual educational evaluation for home educated children that documents "educational progress at a level commensurate with the child's age and ability." Both the statute and Ed. 315.08 provide several options for parents/guardians to meet the statutory evaluation requirements, and the parents/guardians are free to select their preferred method.

1. Parents/guardians seeking to utilize evaluation services through the District should contact the Superintendent's office as soon as practicable to ensure adequate time to prepare any necessary materials and accommodations.

While the parent/guardian may select any evaluation method outlined in RSA 193-A:6, II, as well as any other method agreed to by the parent/guardian and the participating agency, two methods merit further note:

- a. State or Local Assessment Provided by the District. If the evaluation method is a state or local assessment provided by the District, the parent/guardian must notify the Superintendent in writing as soon as practicable to provide the District adequate time to prepare and obtain the testing materials and prepare any necessary accommodations. Under this election, the District will not charge a fee for providing or administering the test. Reasonable academic proficiency is deemed demonstrated if the composite results place the child at or above the fortieth percentile.
- b. Portfolio Review. If the District is the selected participating agency, the parent/guardian may request the District to perform a portfolio review, for which the District may charge a fee.

- c. Other "Valid Measurement Tool". When the Superintendent is the participating agency, the parent/guardian and Superintendent may mutually agree upon any other valid measurement tool(s). A non-exclusive list of examples may be found in Ed 315.08(e).
2. Evaluation Independent of the District. As outlined in RSA 193-A:6, II, the parent/guardian may collaborate with the participating agency to find a mutually agreed upon method of evaluation as described in Ed 315.08(d) - (f).

D. Reports and Records.

1. **Parent/Guardian Requirements** - RSA 193-A:6, I requires the parent/guardian to maintain a portfolio of records and materials relative to the home education program. The portfolio shall consist of a log which designates by title the reading materials used, and also samples of writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by the child. Such portfolio, ***which at all times remains the property of the parent***, shall be preserved by the parent for 2 years from the date of the ending of the instruction.

Parents/guardians need only provide the evaluation results/portfolio to the District to the extent necessary to demonstrate proficiency in order to participate in school programs, and co/extra-curricular activities as provided under RSA 193-A:6, III, and Ed 315.07(b).

E. Re-enrollment into the School District.

Parents/Guardians deciding to re-enroll their children into the District following a period of home education will make arrangements with the Principal for an evaluation to determine appropriate placement in the District's program. Placements will be consistent with section B of Board policy JJJ governing home education and other non-enrolled district student program placements, and are subject to the same appeal process.

Parents/Guardians should be attentive that when re-enrolling a student, there may be discrepancies between the home schooling level of achievement and the scope and sequence of the District's curriculum.

F. Graduation/Diplomas.

The School Board will not award certificates or diplomas to home educated students. Students must enter the regular school program and complete all necessary graduation requirements of the District and the State to be eligible for a certificate or diploma.

G. Participation in school curricular and co/extra-curricular activities.

Regulations regarding the participation of home education students (as well as students of non-public or of public charter schools) in District curricular and co/extra-curricular is found in Board policy JJJ.

Legal References:

RSA 193-A, Home Education

RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil

RSA 193:1-a, Dual Enrollment

RSA 193:1-c, Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic or Home Educated Pupils

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 315, Procedures for the Operation of Home Education Programs

History:

Policy Committee Review 11/21/13

Policy Committee Review 1/23/14

Newport School Board 1st Reading (to replace LBD) 4/10/14

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval (to replace LBD) 6/4/14

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/18

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 11/15/18

Policy updated 1/8/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading 1/9/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 1/23/2020

Newport School Board 1st Reading

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: IJOC Volunteers

School Board MEETING OF: 9/8/26

ACTION X CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the School Board move to approve Policy IJOC and forward for second read and approval.

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IJOC

*Category: Priority/Required by Law
See Also ABA, GBCD, & IJOC-R*

VOLUNTEERS

The District recognizes the valuable contribution made by volunteer assistance of parents and other citizens. The Superintendent is responsible for developing and implementing procedures for the selection and utilization of volunteers. School district employees who desire the assistance of a volunteer should request a volunteer through proper administrative channels.

Designated Volunteers

Designated volunteers will be required to undergo a background investigation and a criminal records check. "Designated volunteer" means any volunteer who:

1. Comes in direct contact with pupils on a daily basis;
2. Meets regularly with students;
3. Meets with students on a one-on-one basis;
4. Any other volunteer so designated by the School Board or Superintendent.

Designated volunteers are subject to the provisions of Policy GBCD – Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check.

Volunteer Application & Selection

Persons wishing to volunteer at the District should complete a Volunteer Application form describing their skills, interests and availability. Such forms will be made available at the Principal's office.

Volunteer selection shall be made based on the qualifications and availability of the volunteer. Volunteers shall be assigned only to those teachers who have requested volunteer assistance. Staff should request volunteers through administrative channels for selected activities and as resource persons.

Assignment shall be made by the school administrator or designee.

Volunteers shall be provided appropriate training at the building level consistent with their tasks and existing district standards. This training shall be developed under the leadership of the principal. Exceptions would be district-wide programs established by the administration whereby general volunteer programs would be defined.

A volunteer may be asked to terminate his/her services when circumstances in the judgment of the administrator necessitate termination.

Volunteer Duties

Selected volunteers will serve in the capacity of assistants and will not be assigned to roles that require specific professional training. Instructional services shall be rendered only under the supervision of certified staff.

All volunteers will sign a confidentiality agreement and shall refrain from discussing the performance or actions of a student except with the student's teacher, counselor, Principal, or other school district employee who has a legitimate educational purpose for discussing such information.

The Confidentiality Agreement is included as Appendix IJOC-R.

Assignments shall be limited to assisting staff members with duties such as routine supervisory, tutorial, clerical, housekeeping and material preparation tasks. Assignment shall be limited to situations that may be supervised by a certificated staff person.

In some instances, volunteers may perform clerical and material preparation tasks away from the school site.

Volunteers with special talents, hobbies or experiences may share those with students on a scheduled basis in a suitable educational setting.

Volunteers will refer to their immediate supervisor or other regular staff member for final solution of any student problems which arise, whether of an instructional, medical or operational nature.

Volunteers will Receive orientation, including: (1) general job responsibilities; (2) information about school facilities, routines, and procedures, including safety and evaluation; (3) work schedule and place of work; and (4) expected relationship to regular staff.

Volunteers will receive appropriate training at the building level, consistent with their tasks and existing District standards. This training shall be developed under the leadership of the Principal in consultation with the volunteer coordinator.

Coaches

Volunteer coaches of individual sports must be certified in that sport and be in compliance with all other regulations and standards as set by NHIAA.

Legal References:

RSA 189:13-a, School Employee and Volunteer Criminal History Records Check

History

Reviewed by the Policy Committee 11/21/05

Newport School Board 1st Reading 3/9/06

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 4/27/06

Reviewed and Revised by the Policy Committee 10/11/12

Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/12

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 11/8/12

Readopted by the Newport School Board 10/22/15

Reviewed by the Policy Committee 10/1/2020

Current

Approved by the Newport School Board 10/1/2020

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IJOC

*Category: Priority/Required by Law
See Also ABA, GBCD, & IJOC-R*

VOLUNTEERS

The District recognizes the valuable contribution made by volunteer assistance of parents and other citizens **to assist school and District staff in meeting the needs of students and serving the school community at large.** ~~The Superintendent is responsible for developing and implementing procedures for the selection and utilization of volunteers. School district employees who desire the assistance of a volunteer should request a volunteer through proper administrative channels.~~

B. Definitions

1. **Volunteer.** Under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), "volunteers" are persons who perform service (1) without promise, expectation or receipt of compensation for the services rendered (reimbursements, and modest stipends excepted); (2) have offered their services freely and without pressure or coercion from any employer, and (3) are not otherwise employed by the District to perform the same type of services for which the individual intends to volunteer.

This expansive definition includes such services whether for classroom or other student programs or activities, or for services such as committee work, chaperones, trades work, etc..

2. **"Designated Volunteer"** as used in this policy shall have the same definition as in Board policy GBCD - Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check. Before a person may volunteer in a position or perform a function falling within the definition of Designated Volunteer, such person must undergo a background investigation and criminal history Records check as described in policy GBCD. Additionally, as required by RSA 189:13-a, XII and policy GBCE, all Designated Volunteers must receive training and information relative to child abuse prevention.

Designated Volunteers

~~Designated volunteers will be required to undergo a background investigation and a criminal records check. "Designated volunteer" means any volunteer who:~~

- ~~1. Comes in direct contact with pupils on a daily basis;~~
- ~~2. Meets regularly with students;~~

- ~~3. Meets with students on a one-on-one basis;~~
- ~~4. Any other volunteer so designated by the School Board or Superintendent.~~

~~Designated volunteers are subject to the provisions of Policy GBCD — Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check.~~

C. Coaches.

All coaches, including assistant coaches, whether receiving a stipend or not, are Designated Volunteers as defined in paragraph B above. Additionally, head coaches of team or individual sports must be in compliance with all regulations and certification requirements for that sport as set by NHIAA or the applicable organization within which the athletes/members compete or participate. Assistant coaches must meet the same requirements as head coaches or be under the direct supervision of the head coach.

D. Volunteer Application, & Selection and Assignment

Persons wishing to volunteer at the District should complete a Volunteer Application form describing their skills, interests and availability. Such forms will be made available at the Principal's office.

Volunteer selection shall be made based on the qualifications and availability of the volunteer. ~~Volunteers shall be assigned only to those teachers who have requested volunteer assistance. Staff should request volunteers through administrative channels for selected activities and as resource persons.~~ Volunteers shall be provided appropriate training at the building level consistent with their tasks, existing District standards and applicable laws and Board policies. This training shall be coordinated under the leadership of the principal or other supervising administrator. At a minimum, such training will include (1) general job responsibilities; (2) information about school facilities, routines, and procedures, including safety and evaluation; (3) work schedule and place of work; (4) expected relationship to regular staff; and (5) information on nondiscrimination and prohibition against teaching or advocating discriminatory concepts.

Assignment shall be made by the school administrator or designee responsible for that program, or the appointing authority in the event of a committee.

Volunteers shall be provided appropriate training at the building level consistent with their tasks and existing district standards. This training shall be developed under the leadership of the principal. Exceptions would be district-wide programs established by the administration whereby general volunteer programs would be defined.

Volunteers shall be assigned only to those staff members who have requested volunteer assistance through their administrative supervisor (e.g., principal, athletic director, facilities director) or to administrative or district level committees.

~~A volunteer may be asked to terminate his/her services when circumstances in the judgment of the administrator necessitate termination.~~

E. Supervision

Volunteers may not be assigned to perform any services within school buildings or during school activities during times that students may reasonably be expected to be in attendance, unless the volunteer is either a Designated Volunteer (i.e., has undergone a background investigation and Criminal History Records Check, or is under the immediate direction of a staff or administration member within the pertinent program).

F. Volunteer Responsibilities and Duties

~~Selected volunteers will serve in the capacity of assistants and will not be assigned to roles that require specific professional training. Instructional services shall be rendered only under the supervision of certified staff.~~

Other than committee volunteers, and head coaches/directors, volunteers may only serve in the capacity of assistants. Instructional services shall be rendered only under the supervision of certified staff.

All volunteers will sign a confidentiality agreement **provided by administration** and shall refrain from discussing the performance or actions of a student except with the student's teacher, counselor, Principal, or other school district employee who has a legitimate educational purpose for discussing such information.

~~The Confidentiality Agreement is included as Appendix IJOC-R.~~

Volunteers with special talents, hobbies or experiences may share those with students in a suitable educational setting scheduled by the staff or administrative member responsible for supervising the class, activity, program or project.

~~Assignments shall be limited to assisting staff members with duties such as routine supervisory, tutorial, clerical, housekeeping and material preparation tasks. Assignment shall be limited to situations that may be supervised by a certificated staff person.~~

~~In some instances, volunteers may perform clerical and material preparation tasks away from the school site.~~

~~Volunteers with special talents, hobbies or experiences may share those with students on a scheduled basis in a suitable educational setting.~~

Volunteers will refer to their immediate supervisor or other regular staff member for final solution of any student problems which arise, whether of an instructional, medical or operational nature.

Volunteers will receive orientation, including: (1) general job responsibilities; (2) information about school facilities, routines, and procedures, including safety and evaluation; (3) work schedule and place of work; and (4) expected relationship to regular staff **from the Building Principal or District official responsible for their work assignment.**

~~Volunteers will receive appropriate training at the building level, consistent with their tasks and existing District standards. This training shall be developed under the~~

~~leadership of the Principal in consultation with the volunteer coordinator.~~

G. Volunteer Termination. Volunteers serve at the pleasure of the District. Except as may be provided in an individual volunteer's agreement, services of a volunteer may be terminated, without notice, at any time when circumstances in the judgment of the supervising administrator warrant termination.

I. Implementation. The Superintendent is authorized to develop and administer any regulations or procedures s/he deems necessary or appropriate to implement this policy.

Coaches

~~Volunteer coaches of individual sports must be certified in that sport and be in compliance with all other regulations and standards as set by NHIAA.~~

Legal References:

RSA 189:13-a, School Employee and Volunteer Criminal History Records Check
RSA 193-F, Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention
RSA 193:40, Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination
RSA 354-A:32, Prohibition on the Content of Government Programs and Speech
RSA 508:17, Volunteers; Nonprofit Organizations; Liability Limited
RSA 632-A:10, Prohibition from Child Care Service of Person Convicted of Certain Offenses
29 CFR 553.101, "Volunteer" defined (State and Local Governments)
29U.S.C. 201-219, Fair Labor Standards Act

History

Reviewed by the Policy Committee 11/21/05
Newport School Board 1st Reading 3/9/06
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 4/27/06
Reviewed and Revised by the Policy Committee 10/11/12
Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/12
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 11/8/12
Readopted by the Newport School Board 10/22/15
Reviewed by the Policy Committee 10/1/2020
Approved by the Newport School Board 10/1/2020
Newport School Board 1st Reading
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IJOC

*Category: Priority/Required by Law
See Also ABA, GBCD, & IJOC-R*

VOLUNTEERS

The District recognizes the valuable contribution made by volunteer assistance of parents and other citizens to assist school and District staff in meeting the needs of students and serving the school community at large.

B. Definitions

1. **Volunteer.** Under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), "volunteers" are persons who perform service (1) without promise, expectation or receipt of compensation for the services rendered (reimbursements, and modest stipends excepted); (2) have offered their services freely and without pressure or coercion from any employer, and (3) are not otherwise employed by the District to perform the same type of services for which the individual intends to volunteer.

This expansive definition includes such services whether for classroom or other student programs or activities, or for services such as committee work, chaperones, trades work, etc..

2. **"Designated Volunteer"** as used in this policy shall have the same definition as in Board policy GBCD - Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check. Before a person may volunteer in a position or perform a function falling within the definition of Designated Volunteer, such person must undergo a background investigation and criminal history Records check as described in policy GBCD. Additionally, as required by RSA 189:13-a, XII and policy GBCE, all Designated Volunteers must receive training and information relative to child abuse prevention.

C. Coaches.

All coaches, including assistant coaches, whether receiving a stipend or not, are Designated Volunteers as defined in paragraph B above. Additionally, head coaches of team or individual sports must be in compliance with all regulations and certification requirements for that sport as set by NHIAA or the applicable organization within which the athletes/members compete or participate. Assistant coaches must meet the same requirements as head coaches or be under the direct supervision of the head coach.

D. Volunteer Application, & Selection and Assignment

Persons wishing to volunteer at the District should complete a Volunteer Application form describing their skills, interests and availability. Such forms will be made available at the Principal's office.

Volunteer selection shall be made based on the qualifications and availability of the volunteer. Volunteers shall be provided appropriate training at the building level consistent with their tasks, existing District standards and applicable laws and Board policies. This training shall be coordinated under the leadership of the principal or other supervising administrator. At a minimum, such training will include (1) general job responsibilities; (2) information about school facilities, routines, and procedures, including safety and evaluation; (3) work schedule and place of work; (4) expected relationship to regular staff; and (5) information on nondiscrimination and prohibition against teaching or advocating discriminatory concepts.

Assignment shall be made by the school administrator or designee responsible for that program, or the appointing authority in the event of a committee.

Volunteers shall be provided appropriate training at the building level consistent with their tasks and existing district standards. This training shall be developed under the leadership of the principal. Exceptions would be district-wide programs established by the administration whereby general volunteer programs would be defined.

Volunteers shall be assigned only to those staff members who have requested volunteer assistance through their administrative supervisor (e.g., principal, athletic director, facilities director) or to administrative or district level committees.

E. Supervision

Volunteers may not be assigned to perform any services within school buildings or during school activities during times that students may reasonably be expected to be in attendance, unless the volunteer is either a Designated Volunteer (i.e., has undergone a background investigation and Criminal History Records Check, or is under the immediate direction of a staff or administration member within the pertinent program).

F. Volunteer Responsibilities and Duties

Other than committee volunteers, and head coaches/directors, volunteers may only serve in the capacity of assistants. Instructional services shall be rendered only under the supervision of certified staff.

All volunteers will sign a confidentiality agreement provided by administration and shall refrain from discussing the performance or actions of a student except with the student's teacher, counselor, Principal, or other school district employee who has a legitimate educational purpose for discussing such information.

Volunteers with special talents, hobbies or experiences may share those with students in a suitable educational setting scheduled by the staff or administrative member responsible for supervising the class, activity, program or project.

proposed

Volunteers will refer to their immediate supervisor or other regular staff member for final solution of any student problems which arise, whether of an instructional, medical or operational nature.

Volunteers will receive orientation, including: (1) general job responsibilities; (2) information about school facilities, routines, and procedures, including safety and evaluation; (3) work schedule and place of work; and (4) expected relationship to regular staff from the Building Principal or District official responsible for their work assignment.

G. Volunteer Termination. Volunteers serve at the pleasure of the District. Except as may be provided in an individual volunteer's agreement, services of a volunteer may be terminated, without notice, at any time when circumstances in the judgment of the supervising administrator warrant termination.

I. Implementation. The Superintendent is authorized to develop and administer any regulations or procedures s/he deems necessary or appropriate to implement this policy.

Legal References:

RSA 189:13-a, School Employee and Volunteer Criminal History Records Check
RSA 193-F, Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention
RSA 193:40, Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination
RSA 354-A:32, Prohibition on the Content of Government Programs and Speech
RSA 508:17, Volunteers; Nonprofit Organizations; Liability Limited
RSA 632-A:10, Prohibition from Child Care Service of Person Convicted of Certain Offenses
29 CFR 553.101, "Volunteer" defined (State and Local Governments)
29U.S.C. 201-219, Fair Labor Standards Act

History

Reviewed by the Policy Committee 11/21/05
Newport School Board 1st Reading 3/9/06
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 4/27/06
Reviewed and Revised by the Policy Committee 10/11/12
Newport School Board 1st Reading 10/25/12
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 11/8/12
Readopted by the Newport School Board 10/22/15
Reviewed by the Policy Committee 10/1/2020
Approved by the Newport School Board 10/1/2020
Newport School Board 1st Reading
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: IMBA Distance Education

School Board MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION X CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the School Board move to approve Policy IMBA and forward for second read and approval.

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IMBA

Category: Recommended
See also IHBH , IHBI, IMBC

DISTANCE EDUCATION

The Board encourages students to take full advantage of distance education opportunities as a means of enhancing and supporting their education. Distance education means correspondence, video-based, internet/online-based or other similar media that provides educational courses as a means to fulfill curriculum requirements. Such opportunities will be implemented under the provisions set forth in policy ***IHBH - Extended Learning Opportunities*** and policy ***IHBI - Alternative Learning Plans***.

If the course is to be taken for credit, then ***Policy IMBC - Alternative Credit Options***, will apply. Students must have distance education courses approved by the Building Principal or designee ahead of time in order to receive credit.

The written approval of the Building Principal or designee is required before a district student enrolls in an online or virtual course that is intended to become part of their educational program. Students applying for permission to take an online course should complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in a distance education learning environment.

Approved distance education courses should satisfy both state and local standards; be delivered by staff licensed in the state where the course originates; and contain provisions for feedback and monitoring of student progress. The district requires that a syllabus, including prerequisites, specific learning goals/activities, student evaluation criteria, and teacher responsibilities be submitted for review before the course is approved.

Students taking approved online courses should be enrolled in the district. Students may work at their own pace, and complete online course work during school, in the evenings, during vacation or whenever works best for the student. Online courses may be taken in the summer under the same conditions as during the school year. The Building Principal or designee will monitor student progress.

The Building Principal will assign a teacher to monitor student progress, grading of assignments, and testing. One teacher may supervise no more than ten students participating in distance education courses.

Approved distance education courses should comply with all federal and state statutes pertaining to student privacy and to public broadcasting of audio and video. Confidentiality of student record information will be maintained throughout the process. This includes information shared between school district representatives and the virtual school or online teacher, information shared between the school district or online teacher with students and parents, and information shared between school district representatives, the virtual school or online teacher and others.

The school district will provide safeguards for students participating in online instruction activities, and policy ***JICL - School District Internet Access for Students***, will apply.

Students earning credit for distance education courses shall participate in all assessments

required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program. Credit courses will require students to meet similar academic standards as required by the District.

Credit for the course is not recognized until an official record of the final grade has been submitted to the principal or his/her designee with feedback from the online teacher.

Students who violate any part of the policy or engage in any other activity that school authorities consider inappropriate are subject to disciplinary action consistent with Board policies and the student handbook.

Legal References:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.04(a)(12), Policy Development
NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.22, Distance Education
NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27(q), High School Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements, and Co curricular Program
Ed 306.04(a)(12), Distance Education
Ed 306.22, Distance Education

History:

Policy Committee Review 08/22/13
Newport School Board 1st Reading 9/12/13
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 10/24/13
Newport School Board 1st Reading 11/19/15
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Adopted 12/10/15
Newport School Board 1st read 4/19/18
Updated Legal References 8/22/19
Newport School Board 1st Reading 8/29/19
Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 9/12/19

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IMBA

Category: Recommended

See also *EBCD, IC, IFA, IHCD, IK, IKF, JICL, LEB, IHBH, IHBI, IMBC*

~~DISTANCE EDUCATION~~ REMOTE LEARNING

“Remote learning/ education” means and includes any instructional mode that is not in-person instruction including, but not limited to, video-based, internet-based, online courses (e.g, Virtual Learning Academy Charter School "VLACS"), other remote instruction, or any combination thereof. It also includes hybrid instructional models that utilize elements of distance education and traditional instruction in any combination. Under rules of the N.H. Department of Education, distance education may be offered only:

1. When inclement weather makes it unsafe to safely transport students to or from in-person instruction (i.e., remote learning day); or
2. As an option for a parent/guardian or adult student making a request for distance education (e.g., online courses); or
3. As articulated in a parent-approved program approved by the local school board pursuant to Board policy IHBI.

A. District/School-Wide Remote Education During Inclement Weather

When inclement weather makes it unsafe to safely transport students to or from in-person instruction, the District or school may elect to provide instruction remotely, pursuant to Board policy IC.

B. Individual Participation in Remote Education.

The Board encourages students to take full advantage of distance education opportunities as a means of enhancing and supporting their education. ~~Distance education means correspondence, video-based, internet/online-based or other similar media that provides educational courses as a means to fulfill curriculum requirements.~~

1. Extended Learning Opportunities and Alternative Learning Plans. Such opportunities will be implemented under the provisions set forth in Policy IHBH, Extended Learning Opportunities and Policy IHBI, Alternative Learning Plans.
2. High School Credit. If the course is to be taken for credit, then Policy IK, Earning of High School Credit - Achievement of Competencies, will also apply. Students must have distance education courses approved by the school principal ahead of time in

order to receive credit;

- a. Although courses may be offered for the earning of credits/competencies, students cannot be required to take a remote course for required courses/achievement of required competencies. Rather, remote courses may be electives, or duplicate or equivalent of in-person options;
 - b. Remote learning options for courses or programs that are used as part of the 43 courses required for an approved high school shall be included in the school's program of studies (Ed 306.22(q)(5));
 - c. The District shall provide, where necessary, all equipment, software, and internet connectivity necessary to participate in district-based remote learning or alternative programs or learning opportunities that are to be counted toward the 43 courses required for an approved high school (Ed 306.22(q)(5)).
3. Pre-conditions for Enrollment in Independent Remote Learning Programs/Courses. The written approval of the building principal is required before a district student enrolls in a remote learning course or program that is intended to become part of their educational program. Students applying for permission to take an remote learning course/program must complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the academic preparation and maturity level needed to function effectively in a remote learning.
4. Approved Courses. Approved distance education courses must satisfy both state and local standards; be delivered by staff licensed in the state where the course originates; and contain provisions for feedback and monitoring of student progress. The district requires that a syllabus, including prerequisites, specific learning goals/activities, student evaluation criteria, and teacher responsibilities be submitted for review before the course is approved.
5. Student Enrollment Requirements. Students taking approved online courses must be enrolled in the district and must take the courses during the regular school day at the school site, unless the administration has granted approval for remote access based on special circumstances. Online courses may be taken in the summer under the same conditions as during the school year.
6. Staff Supervision. When students are participating in remote learning on school grounds during the school day, a teacher or other staff member will be assigned to provide general supervision, and to assist students having difficulty with remote learning.
7. Assessments and Progress Monitoring. The principal will assign a teacher to monitor student progress, grading of assignments, and testing.
8. Earning of Credit. Students earning credit for distance education courses shall be required to demonstrate achievement of applicable competencies and participate in all assessments required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program. Credit for the course is not recognized until an official record of the final

grade has been submitted to the principal or designee with feedback from the online teacher/educator.

9. Privacy and Confidentiality. Approved distance education courses must comply with all federal and state statutes pertaining to student privacy and to public broadcasting of audio and video. Confidentiality of student record information will be maintained throughout the process. This includes information shared between school district representatives and the virtual school or online teacher, information shared between the school district or online teacher with students and parents, and information shared between school district representatives, the virtual school or online teacher and others.
10. Student Conduct. Board policy JICL, School District Internet Access for Students, as well as all Board policies and school rules and regulations will apply to and during all remote learning programs. Students participating in remote learning will also be subject to any policies or rules of any third-party program (e.g, VLACS, etc.).

~~Such opportunities will be implemented under the provisions set forth in policy ***IHBH - Extended Learning Opportunities*** and policy ***IHBI - Alternative Learning Plans***.~~

~~If the course is to be taken for credit, then ***Policy IMBC - Alternative Credit Options***, will apply. Students must have distance education courses approved by the Building Principal or designee ahead of time in order to receive credit.~~

~~The written approval of the Building Principal or designee is required before a district student enrolls in an online or virtual course that is intended to become part of their educational program. Students applying for permission to take an online course should complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in a distance education learning environment.~~

~~Approved distance education courses should satisfy both state and local standards; be delivered by staff licensed in the state where the course originates; and contain provisions for feedback and monitoring of student progress. The district requires that a syllabus, including prerequisites, specific learning goals/activities, student evaluation criteria, and teacher responsibilities be submitted for review before the course is approved.~~

~~Students taking approved online courses should be enrolled in the district. Students may work at their own pace, and complete online course work during school, in the evenings, during vacation or whenever works best for the student. Online courses may be taken in the summer under the same conditions as during the school year. The Building Principal or designee will monitor student progress.~~

~~The Building Principal will assign a teacher to monitor student progress, grading of assignments, and testing. One teacher may supervise no more than ten students participating in distance education courses.~~

~~Approved distance education courses should comply with all federal and state statutes pertaining to student privacy and to public broadcasting of audio and video. Confidentiality of student record information will be maintained throughout the process. This includes information shared between school district representatives and the virtual school or online teacher, information shared between the school district or online teacher with students and parents, and information shared between school district representatives, the virtual school or online teacher and others.~~

~~The school district will provide safeguards for students participating in online instruction activities, and policy **JICL – School District Internet Access for Students**, will apply. Students earning credit for distance education courses shall participate in all assessments~~

~~required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program. Credit courses will require students to meet similar academic standards as required by the District.~~

~~Credit for the course is not recognized until an official record of the final grade has been submitted to the principal or his/her designee with feedback from the online teacher.~~

C. Educational Progress and Policy Violations.

If a student participating in remote learning is not making educational progress, as determined by educational assessments, the option to participate in remote learning may be rescinded by the district. A parent or guardian may appeal this determination to the Superintendent for review. If the Superintendent upholds the determination, the parent/guardian has a right to appeal to the state board of education per N.H. Department of Education Rules Ed 200. A student shall remain in remote learning until the conclusion of the appeal. If the state board upholds the district's conclusion of lacking educational progress, the student shall immediately be disqualified from continued participation in the District's remote learning opportunities.

Students who violate any part of the policy or engage in any other activity that school authorities consider inappropriate are subject to disciplinary action consistent with Board policies and the student handbook and **Code of Conduct**.

Legal References:

RSA 189:1, Days of School

RSA 189:24, Standard School

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.04(a)(12), Policy Development

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Ed 306.04(b)(12), Remote Learning

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.22, Distance Education

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27(q), High School Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements, and Co-curricular Program

NH Code of Administrative Rules Ed 306.15(f), Remote Learning

Ed 306.04(a)(12), Distance Education

Ed 306.22, Distance Education

History:

Policy Committee Review 08/22/13

Newport School Board 1st Reading 9/12/13

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 10/24/13

Newport School Board 1st Reading 11/19/15

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Adopted 12/10/15

Newport School Board 1st read 4/19/18

Updated Legal References 8/22/19

Newport School Board 1st Reading 8/29/19

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 9/12/19

Newport School Board 1st Reading

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IMBA

Category: Recommended

See also EBCD, IC, IFA, IHCD, IK, IKF, JICL, LEB, IHBH, IHBI, IMBC

REMOTE LEARNING

“Remote learning/ education” means and includes any instructional mode that is not in-person instruction including, but not limited to, video-based, internet-based, online courses (e.g, Virtual Learning Academy Charter School "VLACS"), other remote instruction, or any combination thereof. It also includes hybrid instructional models that utilize elements of remote education and traditional instruction in any combination. Under rules of the N.H. Department of Education, remote education may be offered only:

1. When inclement weather/emergency closure makes it unsafe to safely transport students to or from in-person instruction (i.e., remote learning day); or
2. As an option for a parent/guardian or adult student making a request for remote education (e.g., online courses); or
3. As articulated in a parent-approved program approved by the local school board pursuant to Board policy IHBI.
4. When emergency closure forces school closure.

A. District/School-Wide Remote Education During Inclement Weather/Emergency Closure

When inclement weather/emergency closure makes it unsafe to safely transport students to or from in-person instruction, the District or school may elect to provide instruction remotely, pursuant to Board policy IC.

B. Individual Participation in Remote Education.

The Board encourages students to take full advantage of remote education opportunities as a means of enhancing and supporting their education.

Extended Learning Opportunities and Alternative Learning Plans. Such opportunities will be implemented under the provisions set forth in Policy IHBH, Extended Learning Opportunities and Policy IHBI, Alternative Learning Plans.

1. High School Credit. If the course is to be taken for credit, then Policy IK, Earning of High School Credit - Achievement of Competencies, will also apply. Students must have remote education courses approved by the school principal ahead of time in order to receive credit;
 - a. Although courses may be offered for the earning of credits/competencies, students cannot be required to take a remote course for required courses/achievement of required competencies. Rather, remote courses may be electives, or duplicate or equivalent of in-person options;
 - b. Remote learning options for courses or programs that are used as part of the 43 courses required for an approved high school shall be included in the school's program of studies (Ed 306.22(q)(5); See Policy IKF High School Graduation Requirements:
 - c. The District shall provide, where necessary, all equipment, software, and internet connectivity necessary to participate in district-based remote learning or alternative programs or learning opportunities that are to be counted toward the 43 courses required for an approved high school (Ed 306.22(q)(5)); See Policy IKF High School Graduation Requirements:
2. Pre-conditions for Enrollment in Independent Remote Learning Programs/Courses. The written approval of the building principal is required before a district student enrolls in a remote learning course or program that is intended to become part of their educational program. Students applying for permission to take a remote learning course/program must complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the academic preparation and maturity level needed to function effectively in a remote learning.
3. Approved Courses. Approved remote education courses must satisfy both state and local standards; be delivered by staff licensed in the state where the course originates; and contain provisions for feedback and monitoring of student progress. The district requires that a syllabus, including prerequisites, specific learning goals/activities, student evaluation criteria, and teacher responsibilities be submitted for review before the course is approved.
4. Student Enrollment Requirements. Students taking approved online courses must be enrolled in the district and must take the courses during the regular school day at the school site, unless the administration has granted approval for remote access based on special circumstances. Online courses may be taken in the summer under the same conditions as during the school year.
5. Staff Supervision. When students are participating in remote learning on school grounds during the school day, a teacher or other staff member will be assigned to provide general supervision, and to assist students having difficulty with remote learning.

6. Assessments and Progress Monitoring. The principal will assign a teacher to monitor student progress, grading of assignments, and testing.
7. Earning of Credit. Students earning credit for remote education courses shall be required to demonstrate achievement of applicable competencies and participate in all assessments required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program. Credit for the course is not recognized until an official record of the final grade has been submitted to the principal or designee with feedback from the online teacher/educator.
8. Privacy and Confidentiality. Approved remote education courses must comply with all federal and state statutes pertaining to student privacy and to public broadcasting of audio and video. Confidentiality of student record information will be maintained throughout the process. This includes information shared between school district representatives and the virtual school or online teacher, information shared between the school district or online teacher with students and parents, and information shared between school district representatives, the virtual school or online teacher and others.
9. Student Conduct. Board policy JICL, School District Internet Access for Students, as well as all Board policies and school rules and regulations will apply to and during all remote learning programs. Students participating in remote learning will also be subject to any policies or rules of any third-party program (e.g, VLACS, etc.).

C. Educational Progress and Policy Violations.

If a student participating in remote learning is not making educational progress, as determined by educational assessments, the option to participate in remote learning may be rescinded by the district. A parent or guardian may appeal this determination to the Superintendent for review. If the Superintendent upholds the determination, the parent/guardian has a right to appeal to the state board of education per N.H. Department of Education Rules Ed 200. A student shall remain in remote learning until the conclusion of the appeal. If the state board upholds the district's conclusion of lacking educational progress, the student shall immediately be disqualified from continued participation in the District's remote learning opportunities.

Students who violate any part of the policy or engage in any other activity that school authorities consider inappropriate are subject to disciplinary action consistent with Board policies and the student handbook and Code of Conduct.

Legal References:

RSA 189:1, Days of School

RSA 189:24, Standard School

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Ed 306.04(b)(12), Remote Learning

NH Code of Administrative Rules Ed 306.15, Remote Learning

NH Code of Administrative Rules Ed 306.15(f), Remote Learning

History:

Policy Committee Review 08/22/13

Newport School Board 1st Reading 9/12/13

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 10/24/13

Newport School Board 1st Reading 11/19/15

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Adopted 12/10/15

Newport School Board 1st read 4/19/18

Updated Legal References 8/22/19

Newport School Board 1st Reading 8/29/19

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval 9/12/19

Newport School Board 1st Reading

Newport School Board 2nd Reading & Approval

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: IMDA Patriotic Exercises

School Board MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION X CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the School Board move to approve Policy IMDA and forward for second read and approval.

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IMDA

Category: Recommended

PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

Constitution and Citizenship Day.

In accordance with federal law, the District shall offer an education program(s) each year on Constitution Day and Citizenship Day to commemorate the September 17, 1787 signing of the United States Constitution and recognize all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become citizens. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall establish administrative guidelines ensuring that the District observes Constitution Day and Citizenship Day properly and in a manner befitting the importance of the event.

During the weeks of Memorial Day and Veterans Day, the District will devote time for exercises of a patriotic nature, including a discussion of the words, meaning, and history of the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star Spangled Banner.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Every school shall establish a period of time during each school day for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Pupil participation shall be voluntary. Pupils who do not participate in the recitation may sit or stand as they choose, but shall respect the rights of those pupils electing to participate.

General John Stark Day.

New Hampshire observes General John Stark day on the second Monday in April. Schools in the District shall commemorate the day with appropriate educational activities.

Legal References:

RSA 4:13-I, General John Stark Day
RSA 189:18, Patriotic Exercises
RSA 194:15-c, New Hampshire School Patriot Act
36 U.S.C. § 106, Constitution Day and Citizenship Day
Section 111 of Division J of Public Law 108-447 (2004)

History:

Newport School Board 1st Reading 6/25/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 7/9/2020

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IMDA

Category: Recommended

PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

Constitution and Citizenship Day.

In accordance with federal law, the District shall offer an education program(s) each year on Constitution Day and Citizenship Day to commemorate the September 17, 1787 signing of the United States Constitution and recognize all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become citizens. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall establish administrative guidelines ensuring that the District observes Constitution Day and Citizenship Day properly and in a manner befitting the importance of the event.

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~~RSA 4:13-1, General John Stark Day~~

RSA 189:18, Patriotic Exercises

RSA 194:15-c, New Hampshire School Patriot Act

36 U.S.C. § 106, Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

Section 111 of Division J of Public Law 108-447 (2004)

History:

Newport School Board 1st Reading 6/25/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 7/9/2020

NEWPORT SCHOOL BOARD

IMDA

Category: Recommended

PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

Constitution and Citizenship Day.

In accordance with federal law, the District shall offer an education program(s) each year on Constitution Day and Citizenship Day to commemorate the September 17, 1787 signing of the United States Constitution and recognize all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become citizens. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall establish administrative guidelines ensuring that the District observes Constitution Day and Citizenship Day properly and in a manner befitting the importance of the event.

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RSA 189:18, Patriotic Exercises

RSA 194:15-c, New Hampshire School Patriot Act

36 U.S.C. § 106, Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

Section 111 of Division J of Public Law 108-447 (2004)

History:

Newport School Board 1st Reading 6/25/2020

Newport School Board 2nd Reading and Approval 7/9/2020

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: NHSBA Delegate Assembly

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION __X__ CONSENT: INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

Approval for Chair Murphy to attend the NHSBA Annual Delegate Assembly, Concord, NH,
October 17, 2026

FISCAL IMPACT:

FISCAL VERIFICATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: Finance Report

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF: 9/24/26

ACTION _____ CONSENT: _____ INFORMATION: X

Ms. O'Connor will present a finance report.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

FISCAL VERIFICATION: _____

RECOMMENDATION:

Newport General Fund 25-26 Unaudited EOY Fiscal Report
SY Ending 6.30.26

Newport Revenues

<u>Function</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Proj Addit Receipts</u>	<u>Proj Variance</u>
111x	District Assessment	11,511,073	3,000,000	8,511,073	0
13xx	Tuition/Spec Ed Cost Recovery	857,000	-	857,000	0
14xx	Transportation Income	2,000	-	2,000	0
15xx, 17xxx, 19xx	Other Local Revenue (Int, Rental, etc)	63,000	1,077	61,923	0
31xx/32xx	NH State Reimbursements	8,944,038	1,525,848	7,418,190	0
4xxx	Federal Reimbursements/Grants	125,000	38,105	86,895	0
51xx/52xx	Sale Bonds Note/Fund Transfers	1,501,000	1,501,000	-	0
Total		23,003,111	6,066,030	16,937,081	-
2026 Fund Balance		193,000			
Total Avail Revenue		23,196,111			

PROJECTED FUND BALANCE (from Operations)

POTENTIAL REVENUE VARIANCE

POTENTIAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET BALANCE

TOTAL -

Newport Expenditures by Function (Department)

<u>Function</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Budget Adopted</u>	<u>YTD Expended</u>	<u>Encumbrances & Projections</u>	<u>Budget Balance</u>
1100	Regular Instructional Programming	5,030,864	275,554	3,908,826	846,484
1200	Special Education Programming	4,251,889	261,619	3,940,893	49,377
1260	English Second Language Learning Program	80,905	6,323	74,945	(363)
1300	Vocational Programming	1,189,201	84,154	944,770	160,277
1410/1420/1490	Co-Curricular/Athletics/Field Trip	586,465	30,688	377,229	178,548
2112	School Resource Officer	106,200	0	0	106,200
2120	Guidance Programming	467,602	55,869	399,696	12,038
2130	Health Programming	202,634	11,888	170,809	19,937
2140	Psych Services	279,694	9,927	266,718	3,049
2150	Speech Services	517,361	11,205	464,405	41,751
2162/2163	OT/PT Services	558,675	13,166	572,088	(26,578)
2200-2213	Staff Development	340,146	132,227	77,723	130,196
2222	Media/Library	123,012	1,556	51,676	69,780
2225	Technology Services	598,388	84,903	259,903	253,582
2310/2321/2332	School Board/Superintendent Services	1,022,412	156,854	728,236	137,321
2400/2490	School Administration/Principals Office	1,499,938	219,664	1,225,694	54,580
2510	Business Services	458,816	95,701	343,981	19,134
2610	Building Maintenance	112,723	23,187	83,478	6,058
2620	Custodial Services	2,496,279	435,428	1,700,121	360,730
2721	Student Transportation (to/from)	699,054	203,986	441,655	53,413
2722	Special Ed Transportation	114,667	4,673	71,151	38,843
2723	Vocational Transportation	1,100	158	0	942
2724	Athletic Transportation	21,775	310	2,280	19,185
2725	Field Trip Transportation	7,700	0	0	7,700
2800	Technology Director	128,560	26,829	95,889	5,842
2900	Support Services	100,500	64,582	20,735	15,183
4000	Construction Services	0	0	0	0
5100	Debt Service	698,551	698,551	0	0
5200	Reserve Fund Transfers-Federal Proj.	1,001,000	1,001,000	0	0
5220	F&R Food Service Transfer	500,000	500,000	0	0
Expenditure Totals		\$23,196,111	\$4,409,999	\$16,222,900	\$2,563,212