

Foster School District

Policy #6155

Home Schooling Instruction

PURPOSE:

This policy shall serve to establish the School Committee guidelines, procedures and expectations governing the conducting of a student's regular education program outside the regular school environment (in the home) as provided by State Law.

PHILOSOPHY:

The Foster School Committee recognizes that some parents either for personal or religious reasons have the right to educate their children at home. Any parent seeking approval for home instruction must comply with the following requirements:

POLICY STATEMENT

1. That the curriculum designed by the parents comply with Title 16-19-2 requirements of the General Laws of Rhode Island and be approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
2. That the parents maintain instructional attendance records as required by State of Rhode Island Law and will submit same to the Foster Schools.
3. That a portfolio consisting of a list of books read, field trips undertaken, art work, or any other papers germane to the proposed educational plan, be made available for the Superintendent's perusal. Said portfolio should be available at mid-year and year end.
4. That the parents be requested to have students tested.
5. That the parents must submit an annual written assessment of their child (children's) progress.

First Reading: October 2, 2000

Adopted: November 6, 2001

TITLE 16

Education

CHAPTER 16-19

Compulsory Attendance

SECTION 16-19-2

§ 16-19-2 Approval of private schools – Requirements - Review.

For the purposes of this chapter a private school or at-home instruction shall be approved only when it complies with the following requirements: (1) that the period of attendance of the pupils in the school or in the home instruction is substantially equal to that required by law in public schools; (2) that registers are kept and returned to the school committee, the superintendent of schools, truant officers, and the department of elementary and secondary education in relation to the attendance of pupils, and are made the same as registers kept by the public schools; (3) that reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, the history of the United States, the history of Rhode Island, and the principles of American government shall be taught in the English language substantially to the same extent as these subjects are required to be taught in the public schools, and that the teaching of the English language and of other subjects indicated in this section shall be thorough and efficient; provided, however, that nothing contained in this section shall be construed or operate to deny the right to teach in private schools or in at-home instruction any of the subjects or any other subject in any other language in addition to the teaching in English as prescribed in this section; provided, further, that any interested person resident in any city or town aggrieved by the action of the school committee of the city or town either in approving or refusing to approve at-home instruction may appeal the action to the department of elementary and secondary education. The department of elementary and secondary education, after notice to the parties interested of the time and place of a hearing, shall examine and decide the appeal without cost to the parties. The commissioner of elementary and secondary education shall also grant a hearing to any party aggrieved by a refusal to approve a private school pursuant to § 16-60-6(10). The decision of the board of regents for elementary and secondary education shall, if an appeal is made to the board, be final.

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE16/16-19/16-19-2.HTM>

3/5/2010