

Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts

The Board recognizes and promotes the importance of obtaining a high school diploma, as a diploma assists students to lead healthy and productive lives after graduation. Those youth who withdraw from school and prepare to face life with less than a high school education will have a much more difficult time entering the workforce or pursuing other goals. Therefore, the Board strongly urges every teacher, school guidance counselor, principal, parent and citizen to exert all the influence possible to keep all District students in school through high school graduation.

According to Colorado statute, a "dropout" is a student who has been absent from class for six consecutive weeks or more in any one school year, except for reasons of expulsion, excused long-term illness or death, before completion of a high school diploma or its equivalent, and who does not transfer to another public or private school or enroll in a home study or online education program.

Principals, teachers and school guidance counselors are encouraged to make dropout prevention a priority through personal contacts with students and specialized programs. The goal is to enable those students who are considering dropping out or have dropped out of school to return and resume their programs with a minimum degree of disruption.

To emphasize the importance of a high school diploma and to encourage students to reconsider their decision to withdraw from school, the principal or designee shall notify the student's parent(s)/guardian or custodian in writing, when there is knowledge that a student has dropped out of school. Such written notification shall be in accordance with this policy's accompanying regulation.

Adopted May 12, 2010

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-2-114.1 (dropout rate reporting)
C.R.S. 22-14-108 (written notice of dropout status)
C.R.S. 22-33-104 (compulsory school attendance)
C.R.S. 22-33-203 and 204 (services for expelled and at-risk students)
1 CCR 301-67, Rule 2.01 (7) (definition of "dropout")

CROSS REFS.: IHBH, Alternative School Programs
IKF, Graduation Requirements
JEA, Compulsory Attendance Age
JH, Student Absences and Excuses
JHB, Truancy
JKF, Educational Alternatives for Expelled Students
JKG, Expulsion Prevention
KB, Parent Involvement in Education

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