

November 17, 2021

The North Middlesex Regional School District School Committee places the following policy on the table for public review. Should you wish to comment about the policy, please email your comments to info@nmrsd.org

Thank you.

FILE: IHBG-R

HOMESCHOOLING

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1. Requirements for approval of home instruction will include:
 - The parent or legal guardian must request permission to hold home instruction on an annual basis.
 - A letter of intent should be submitted to the Superintendent or designee before approval may be granted. As outlined in the Charles decision, the letter of intent should contain A) Contact information including address, phone#, email, student's name, birth date, and grade level. B) Educational plan and curriculum. C) Academic background or qualifications of the instructor. D) Method of assessment. The district's letter of intent template is on the district website or available upon request.
 - The Committee delegates the approval of home instruction to the Superintendent. Any approval or rejection of an application by the Superintendent or designee is subject to review by the Committee.
2. Children in-home instruction may, at the request of parents or guardians, attend the public schools on a part-time basis at the discretion of the building principal. It may be an advantage for a home-taught child to participate in specialized classes in the public school.
3. Parents or a legal guardian in charge of home instruction should make provisions for regular testing or use other student progress indicators such as standardized achievement tests, portfolios, or other measures of growth and progress. As an alternative to home testing and at the request of those in charge of the home instruction, the School District will make provision for the inclusion of home-taught children in available assessments and at the discretion of the building principal. The home instruction summary form must include either a summary of home testing results for each required subject for each child or the results of the achievement test or other assessment methods (i.e., portfolios, work samples, etc.).
4. The end-of-year documentation must be submitted by June 30 annually to the school district.
5. The Committee will act in a responsible, cooperative manner to ensure that all children in the School District receive competent, adequate instruction. This concern includes children in home education. If the Committee determines that a home instruction situation is inadequate, a conference between the parents or legal guardian and the Superintendent will be scheduled to find mutually acceptable ways to correct any deficiency.

7. If deficiencies in a home education situation are not corrected, or the parents or legal guardian does not complete the proper annual application or summary, an appropriate referral will be made.

Legal Ref:

M.G.L. Chapter 76, Sections 1, 2 and 4, Charles Decision

Adopted by the NMRSD School Committee:

NMRSD Adoption: 3/4/2019

Five-Year Review Cycle: 10/20/2021

NMRSD First Vote: 11/15/2021

NMRSD Adoption:
