



JFC - 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, guidance counselor, principal, parent and citizen to exert all the influence that he or she can command to keep all District students in school through high school graduation.

Principals and guidance counselors are expected 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 District shall notify the student's parents/guardian in writing when it has knowledge that a student has dropped out of high school.

When a student is identified by the staff as a potential or immediate dropout, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. The student and a school counselor shall meet for the purpose of discussing the reason(s) for leaving school and the student's plans for the future.
2. The student, his/her parents/guardian, the counselor and the principal or designee shall review all pertinent information and give their recommendations. A formal plan shall be put in place for the option(s) the student and his/her parents/guardian choose to pursue.

If, after the above procedure has been followed, the student remains firm on his/her intention to leave school, the principal shall send a written notice that the student has dropped out of school to the parents/guardian of those students who are no longer subject to the school attendance laws, i.e. those students who are 17 years of age or older. The written notice should include, but is not limited to, an encouragement that the student return to school; an explanation of the long-term ramifications to the student of dropping out of school; and the availability of educational alternatives and services for at-risk students, such as GED programs, counseling services, drug or alcohol addiction treatment programs, and family preservation services.

All reasonable efforts shall be extended in an attempt to retain students in school and assist them in earning a diploma.

For purposes of this policy, "high school dropout" shall have the same meaning as provided in Colorado statutes and the rules of the State Board of Education. As stated in Colorado statute, any 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, is considered a "dropout" and shall be reported to the Department of Education by the District. However, if the student is in attendance at the end of the school year or enrolled in another school, home study course or online program, the student is not considered a dropout and shall not be reported.

Adopted by Board: February 13, 2006

Revised by Board: May 27, 2008

LEGAL REFS:

C.R.S. 22-2-114.1

C.R.S. 22-33-104

C.R.S. 22-33-107.1

C.R.S. 22-33-203 & -204

CROSS REF:

IKF, Graduation Requirements