

POLICY GUIDE CLIFFSIDE PARK BOARD OF ED

Pupils
5130. WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL (M)

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[See POLICY ALERT No. 95 and 172]

The Board of Education believes that the educational goals of this district are best implemented by a pupil's exposure to the entire educational program and that every pupil enrolled in this district should be encouraged to complete the program of instruction appropriate to his/her needs. No pupil below the age of sixteen will be permitted to withdraw from school.

For districts with elementary school(s)

The Superintendent shall alert teaching staff members to identify those pupils who may consider eighth grade graduation the termination of their education. Any pupil who indicates that he/she may drop out of school before entry to the ninth grade should be reported to the building principal and be provided with counseling.

For districts with secondary school(s)

The Board directs that efforts be made to determine the underlying reason for a pupil's decision to withdraw from school before the completion of the instructional program. A potential dropout pupil will be offered counseling and an opportunity to plan an instructional program appropriate to his/her career goals. No pupil under the age of eighteen will be permitted to withdraw without the written consent of the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

Counseling services and information regarding high school equivalency programs will be made available to any pupil sixteen years of age or older who decides to withdraw from school before completion of the requirements for a diploma. A pupil who has withdrawn from school may apply for readmission at any time prior to his/her twentieth birthday, provided application for readmission is made at the beginning of a school term.

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 5550

Adopted/Revised: March 28, 2007

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*Send
letter*

January 24, 2008

GUIDELINES FOR TRUANCY

1. For students younger than 16, who fall under the jurisdiction of the Compulsory Education Act referrals can be made to Crisis Intervention when a student has between 5 and 9 unexcused absences. A referral to Crisis Intervention is MANDATORY when a student exceeds 10 unexcused absences. ✓
2. For children under the age of 11 the more appropriate first Step would be to contact the Division of Youth and Family Service. This approach puts the responsibility to educate their child back to the parent and under New Jersey law 18A:38-31 (Attendance at School) can now be prosecuted under this statute in Cliffside Park Municipal Court.

- If you have any questions you may contact Lieutenant Tim Kelly at (201) 313-2031.

Donald V. Keane

Chief Donald V. Keane

Tim Kelly

Lieutenant Tim Kelly

B. Compelling Attendance at School.

18A:38-27. Truancy and juvenile delinquency defined. Any child between the ages of six and 16 years who shall repeatedly be absent from school, and any child of such age found away from school during school hours whose parent, guardian or other person having charge and control of the child is unable to cause him to attend school and any pupil who is incorrigible, actually vagrant, vicious, or immoral in conduct, shall be deemed to be a juvenile delinquent and shall be proceeded against as such.

18A:38-28. Truants; return to parents or school. Any attendance officer who shall find any child between six and 16 years of age who is a truant from school, shall take the child and deliver him to the parent, guardian or other person having charge and control of the child, or to the teacher of the school which such child is lawfully required to attend.

18A:38-29. Warning and arrest of vagrants or habitual truants. The attendance officer shall examine into all violations of this article, shall warn any child violating any of the provisions of this article and the parent, guardian or other person having charge and control of the child of the consequences of the violation if persisted in, and shall notify such person in writing to cause the child to attend school within five days from the date on which notice is served, and regularly thereafter. The attendance officer shall have full police power to enforce the provisions of this article and may arrest without warrant any vagrant child or habitual truant or any child who is habitually incorrigible or who is vicious or immoral in conduct or illegally absent from school.

18A:38-30

CONDUCT OF SCHOOLS

18A:38-30. Assistance of sheriffs, police officers, etc. The sheriff and his officers and all police officers and constables shall assist attendance officers in the performance of their duties.

18A:38-31. Violations of article by parents or guardians; penalties. A parent, guardian or other person having charge and control of a child between the ages of 6 and 16 years, who shall fail to comply with any of the provisions of this article relating to his duties, shall be deemed to be a disorderly person and shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$25.00 for a first offense and not more than \$100.00 for each subsequent offense, in the discretion of the court.

In any such proceeding, the summons issuing therein, or in special circumstances a warrant, shall be directed to the alleged disorderly person and the child.

Amended. L. 1980, c. 153, §1.