

<p>North Providence School Department Home School Policy</p>	<p>Approved: 6/23/2021</p>

I. INTRODUCTION

The North Providence School Department recognizes that parents have a statutory right to provide home schooling for their children in accordance with R.I.G.L. 16-19-2. The School Committee has adopted this policy to ensure that children educated in the home receive a comparable education to those educated in the public school setting as required by state law and regulation.

II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide procedures by which the School Committee may accept a parental homeschooling proposal.

III. HOME SCHOOLING POLICY

The School Committee of the North Providence Schools will approve a program of home instruction which is substantially equal to the curriculum provided to a student attending a public school within the town. In compliance with the Rhode Island General Law 16-19-1 and 16-19-2, the North Providence School Committee shall approve home schooling only when the homeschooling proposal complies with applicable Federal and State statutory and regulatory requirements. The Committee shall approve requests to home school pursuant to the standards set out in R.I.G.L. 16-19-2 as amended from time to time and the following requirements:

1. The period of home instruction is substantially equal to that required by law in the public schools;
2. An attendance record must be maintained, made available upon request to the Superintendent or his/her designee, and returned to the Superintendent at the end of the homeschooling instructional year;
3. Reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, the history of the US, the history of RI, the principles of American government, health, and physical education shall be taught in the English language substantially to the same extent as such subjects are required to be taught in the public schools; and that the teaching of the English language and of other subjects indicated herein shall be thorough and efficient;
4. The Superintendent shall require and the parents/guardians and students shall submit an annual evaluation of the home instruction program to measure student academic progress. The evaluation measures may include a report card, written evaluations, dated work samples, or similar evaluative tools. Annual testing or standardized testing, while not required by RI General Laws for home

schooling, may also be used as a type of evaluation. If state testing is a parental choice, the District will arrange for the testing.

5. Please refer to RI Law 16-23-2 which provides information regarding the loan of textbooks. Parents/Guardians may also refer to www.ride.ri.gov for more information regarding homeschooling.

IV. GUIDELINES FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Home schooled students' participation in North Providence Public Schools academic programs, enrollment in specific courses, extracurricular and /or interscholastic activities, formal testing programs, and the use of school facilities is subject to the approval of the School Committee on a case by case basis. Participation in said programs and activities is contingent upon the following:

1. Space is available within the set student participation level of program and/or class;
2. First preference shall be given to students enrolled in the North Providence School District, including new enrollees;
3. The parents/guardians shall provide transportation to and from an approved activity;
4. Home schooled students shall follow and adhere to all rules, meet the same requirements as established for district students, including health, age, and other expectations;
5. Home Schooling participation will not result in a direct cost to the District;
6. Students wishing to participate in extracurricular activities must meet all eligibility requirements of the Rhode Island Athletic Interscholastic League and all stipulations aforementioned; and
7. All costs associated with home instruction shall be borne by the parents/guardians.

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