



POLICY 5.27

4-F I recommend that the Board adopt the proposed revised Policy 5.27, entitled "Parental and Marital Status of Students."

[Contact: Ira Margulies, PX 45857.]

Adoption

CONSENT ITEM

- The Board approved development of this revised Policy at the development reading on September 24, 2008.
- This policy addresses the need for married, pregnant or parenting students to receive the same educational opportunities or the equivalent of other students by:
 - Recognizing the students' rights to remain in their regular daytime program, and to participate in class, program or extracurricular activities.
 - Providing for a pregnant student to voluntarily transfer to alternative educational programs of the District.
 - Permitting a pregnant student requiring medical homebound education to receive homebound instruction as other students receiving homebound instruction.
- The policy provides the statutory exemption regarding attendance to pregnant students taking teenage parenting classes.
- The policy further delegates to the Superintendent the authority to develop administrative procedures for the implementation of the policy.

POLICY 5.27

PARENTAL AND MARITAL STATUS OF STUDENTS
STUDENTS INVOLVED IN PREGNANCY

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4 1. **Purpose.** To ensure that married, pregnant or parenting students are provided
5 educational services in a nondiscriminatory manner.
- 6 2. **Scope.** This policy is applicable to all married, pregnant and parenting
7 students.
- 8 3. **Policy Statement.**The School Board recognizes that in order to be successful,
9 productive citizens all students must be provided with educational opportunities.
10 This includes students who become or have become married, students who are
11 pregnant, and students who are parents. Therefore, the School District shall
12 provide married, pregnant and parenting students the same educational
13 opportunities or its equivalent as all other students. Such students shall not be
14 excluded from any class, program, or extracurricular activity based on their marital,
15 pregnant or parental status, unless otherwise provided by Federal law.
- 16 4. **Pregnant or Parenting Students**
 - 17 a. A pregnant student shall be referred to the school guidance department as
18 soon as the pregnancy is apparent. Counseling services to assist her and her
19 parents in planning for the future shall be made available.
 - 20 b. Pregnant or parenting students may continue in their regular daytime program
21 or voluntarily transfer to an alternative school designed to meet their
22 scholastic, adjustment and parenting needs, as provided in School Board
23 **Policy 8.13 (Educational Alternative Programs)**
 - 24 c. In accordance with Federal laws and regulations, a pregnant student who for
25 medical reasons finds it necessary to be on medical homebound instruction
26 must be provided with the same services provided to other students who are
27 receiving medical homebound instruction.
 - 28 d. Pregnant or parenting students participating in a teenage parent program are
29 exempt from minimum attendance requirements for absences related to
30 pregnancy or parenting but are required to make up work missed due to
31 absences.
 - 32 e. Schools shall provide counseling to any male student who has acknowledged
33 that he is the father of a pregnant girl's child.
- 34 5. **Rules/Regulations.** Married, pregnant and parenting students shall comply with

35 the same rules and regulations which govern all students of the School District,
36 except as modified by §1003.54.

37 6. **Delegation of Responsibility.** The Superintendent or designee shall develop
38 administrative procedures or guidelines for implementing this policy.

39 ~~Principals of the various schools shall recommend to the Department of Guidance~~
40 ~~Service transfer of students from and to the daytime program of the public schools to~~
41 ~~the Adult Education Program or other alternative programs in accordance with the~~
42 ~~following guidelines:~~

43 1. ~~A pregnant student may remain in the regular daytime program of the public~~
44 ~~schools as long as feasible. A pregnant student shall be referred to the school~~
45 ~~guidance department as soon as the pregnancy is apparent. Counseling services~~
46 ~~to assist her and her parents in planning for the future shall be mandatory. She~~
47 ~~may elect transfer to a school-age parent program in her school or another~~
48 ~~school.~~

49 2. ~~Upon completion of her pregnancy, the student shall be returned to her regular~~
50 ~~daytime program in her area school. After mandatory consultation with a~~
51 ~~guidance counselor, and when possible, with her physician and/or parents, the~~
52 ~~options are to be available to her:~~

53 1. ~~To remain in her own school.~~

54 2. ~~To transfer to another school within the system.~~

55 3. ~~To transfer to the adult education program.~~

56 ~~Schools shall provide counseling to any male student who has acknowledged that~~
57 ~~he is the father of a pregnant girl's child. He shall be given the same options for~~
58 ~~voluntary transfer as the girl.~~

59 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.41; 20 U.S.C. §1681-1688, See also 34
60 CFR 106.40 232.02

61 LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Fla. Stat. §§ 1003.21; 1003.54 232.04

62 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULES: F.A.C. 6A-19.001; 6A-19.002; 6A-6.0525

63 HISTORY: 2/18/72; 4/6/83; ___/___2008

Legal Signoff:

The Legal Department has reviewed proposed Policy 5.27 and finds it legally sufficient for development by the Board.

Attorney

Date