



ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS/SERVICES FOR PREGNANT GIRLS

5119.3

Procedure No.

September 2, 2008

Date

- I. **PURPOSE:** To provide information and guidelines for educational programs/services for pregnant girls enrolled in Prince George's County Public Schools.
- II. **BACKGROUND:** The Prince George's County Public School System is required to provide appropriate school programs/services for all students, including pregnant girls whether married or unmarried, in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, Section 7-301, and the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), 13A.08.01.06. These programs/services shall include provisions for counseling, pupil personnel work, social work, and psychological services, as needed.
- III. **PROCEDURES:**
 - A. Pregnant Girls Over 16 Years of Age
 1. A pregnant girl 16 years or older, married or unmarried, who has not received her high school diploma or certificate of completion, may elect to remain in her regular school program and may not be involuntarily excluded from any part of the program or withdrawn from school.
 2. The decision to modify the program or provide an alternative program shall be reached in consultation with the girl and appropriate educational and medical personnel.
 - B. Pregnant Students Under 16 Years of Age
 1. A pregnant girl, married or unmarried, who is under the age of 16 may voluntarily withdraw from her regular school program provided she enrolls in an appropriate educational program.
 2. The decision concerning an appropriate program shall be reached in consultation with the girl, her parents, her guardians, her husband, and appropriate educational and medical personnel.
 - C. Services Available To Pregnant Girls
 1. Pregnant girls of any age shall be informed of available services, inclusive of but not limited to health, psychological, counseling, pupil personnel, and educational services.
 2. Appropriate educational services may include the following:
 - a. Continuation in the regular school program as long as the physician deems appropriate;



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- b. Modified school day based on individual needs;
 - c. Enrollment in Evening High School or Saturday School;
 - d. Home and Hospital Teaching; (Refer to Administrative Procedure 5011)
 - e. Virtual Learning Opportunities;
 - f. Combination of the above programs.
3. The school system shall cooperate with other State, county, and local agencies and with private medical services to assure that the pregnant girl receives appropriate medical, psychological, and social services during and after pregnancy.
- D. Consultation with Student
1. An Educational Plan for Pregnant Girls form (PS-9) shall be completed.
 2. Copies of this plan shall be placed in both the health and cumulative folders.
- E. Responsibilities of the Principal
1. The principal of each school will take the necessary steps to ensure that parents, guardians, students, and staff members are aware of the procedures contained herein.
 2. Such measures may utilize student handbooks, PTA discussions, faculty meetings, etc.
- IV. **RELATED PROCEDURES:** Administrative Procedure 5011, Home and Hospital Teaching; Administrative Procedure 5113, Student Attendance, Absence, and Truancy; Administrative Procedure 5113.5, Home Schooling; Administrative Procedure 5121.1, Grading and Reporting for Elementary Schools, Pre-Kindergarten Through Grade Five; Administrative Procedure 5121.2, Grading and Reporting for Secondary Schools, Grade Six Through Grade Twelve; Administrative Procedure 6150, Student Enrollment in Courses and Educational Requirements and Options in Secondary Schools.
- V. **MAINTENANCE AND UPDATE OF THESE PROCEDURES:** These procedures originate with the Department of Student Services, Office of Professional School Counseling Services. A review of these procedures is recommended every three (3) years or as deemed necessary.
- VI. **CANCELLATIONS AND SUPERSEDES:** This Administrative Procedure cancels and supersedes Administrative Procedure 5119.3, dated February 1, 1993.



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VII. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 2, 2008.

Approved by:
John E. Deasy
Superintendent of Schools

Attachment: Educational Programs for Pregnant Girls (DDS-9)

Distribution: Lists 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, and 12