

INSTRUCTION

HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION

General Belief The Providence Public School Board (PPSB) believes that the Providence Public School District (PPSD) students who from time to time are medically required to temporarily convalesce in their homes or in area hospitals while school is in session need to maintain continuity of their instructional programs during these interim periods of convalescence.

Purpose The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the PPSD addresses the issue outlined above.

Position The PPSD will provide convalescing students with home or hospital instruction in subjects or courses correlated with the student's current school program to the extent practicable. The PPSD will also provide additional services, such as English Language Learning and Special Education, to those students who are entitled to receive those services [to the extent practicable or otherwise legally mandated].

Home and hospital instruction is a temporary measure and is not an alternate pathway to grade promotion or graduation.

**Implementation
Strategies**

The Superintendent will develop and implement an “Administrative Regulations to Implement the Home and Hospital Instruction Policy” (as amended from time to time, the “**Regulations**”).

The Regulations will address each of the following:

1. the procedures for developing home and hospital instruction plans for convalescing students whereby, upon receipt by the Appropriate Administrator of Medical Documentation of Convalescence for a student, the Appropriate Administrator convene an home and hospital instruction team, which develop [and implement] a home and hospital instruction plan based on the student’s current school subjects/courses to the extent practicable, and based on the student’s needs as outlined in the student’s 504 Plan or IEP, if applicable; which procedures also include a time frame by which each individual home and health instruction plan is to be developed and implemented;
2. the titles of the persons responsible for addressing convalescing students’ home and hospital instruction needs, and the persons responsible for creating and reporting on home and hospital instruction plans;
3. development of standardized forms to be used to request a home and hospital instruction plan;
4. the process by which a parent or guardian who is not satisfied with the relevant student’s home and hospital instruction plan may appeal to the Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee.

Compliance with Laws, Confidentiality Requirements:

The Superintendent will ensure that all PPSD personnel and all PPSD contractors comply fully with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and with all PPSB Policies. In the event any part of any Policy is unlawful, the Superintendent will report such event to the PPSB as soon as practicable and request of the PPSB a modification of this Policy.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all PPSD personnel and all PPSD contractors will comply fully with all confidentiality requirements under *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Law 104-191, The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99*, all PPSB policies, all PPSD regulations, and all other applicable laws, rules or regulations, in each case as amended and including all regulations promulgated under any of the foregoing.

Definitions:

“504 Plan” means a written document outlining the modifications and accommodations that are needed for a child with disabilities to be provided a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.

A written document designed to meet the individual educational needs of students with disabilities as adequately as the needs of students without disabilities are being met.

A person with a disability under Section 504 is any person who (i) has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of such an impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having such an impairment. (<http://www.ed-center.com/504>)

“Appropriate Administrator” means the applicable building administrator or his or her designee or, if related to a special education convalescing student, the appropriate local education agent [or his or her designee].

“Convalescing Student” means a PPSD student for whom the Appropriate Administrator has

received Medical Documentation of Convalescence from that student's parent or guardian.

“Health Care Provider” means a person/agency licensed by this state to provide or are otherwise lawfully able to provide health care services, including, but not limited to, a physician, hospital, intermediate care facility or other health care facility, physician assistant or nurse practitioner, and any officer, employee or agent of that provider acting in the course and scope of his/her employment or agency related to or supportive of health services (*Rules and Regulations for School Health Programs (R16-21-SCHO)*, promulgated under R.I.G.L. Chapters 16-21, 35-4, and 23-1-18(4)).

“Home & Hospital Instruction Plan” means an approved educational instructional plan for a convalescing student.

“Homebound and Hospital Instruction (as a special education placement)” means a special education placement for a student with a disability made by an IEP team. In this model, home or hospital instruction is provided by special education teachers, general education classroom teachers or regular education, subject matter teachers, together with appropriately certified specialists providing related services, as needed; to any child with a disability whose health status warrants home or hospital instruction (*300.115(A)(3)*). This placement determination must be made in a student's IEP and considered at least annually.

“Home & Hospital Instruction Team” means a team of PPSD personnel convened to determine the home and hospital instruction plan, led by the appropriate building administrator or, if related to a special education student, the appropriate local education agent, and comprised of PPSD personnel required by law to be a part of such team or otherwise deemed relevant by the Appropriate Administrator.

“Individual Education Program (IEP)”
~~means a written statement for a child with a disability, which written statement is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance with section 614(d) of [Title I, Amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Sec. 101, Part A, Section 602]~~
 means a written statement of each child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, revised in accordance with the IEP Team.

“Local education agent” means a special education teacher/administrator who can guarantee the services outlined in the IEP.

means a required member of the IEP team, who is qualified to provide, or supervise, the provision of, specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of the children with disabilities; is knowledgeable about the general education curriculum; and is knowledgeable about the availability of resources of the public agency and has the authority to commit those resources (300.321 (a)(4)).

“Medical Documentation of Convalescence” means current documentation executed by appropriate health care provider or otherwise specified in a 504 Plan or an IEP that a PPSD student is unable to attend school for a temporary period of time not less than 14 consecutive [school] days due to confinement to a Providence home or a Providence-area hospital because of an injury, illness or other extenuating circumstances involving the student.

Review and Reporting

The Superintendent will report to the PPSB, in each case for the school year immediately prior to the report,

- a. the number of home and hospital instruction plans requested,
- b. the number of home and hospital instruction plans implemented,
- c. the student participation rate, and course failure rate, and
- d. the number of cases that went to appeals and the outcome of those appeals.

This report will be delivered annually at the PPSB Workshop addressing Teaching and Learning generally.

Legal Reference

Title 34, 300.115, B-1 Continuum of Alternative Placements
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Law 104-191
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
Rhode Island Regulations for Education, Chapter 16-19-1 and 2 Rhode Island Department of Education's Basic Education Plan

Cross Reference

Policy JI: Student Rights and Responsibilities
Policy JICDA: Code of Conduct
Policy [___]: Pregnant, Parenting, and Married Students' Educational Rights

Form Reference Number

None

History

Approved June 27, 2011

Amended:

