ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES OF THE MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 8.25

MARRIED/PREGNANT STUDENTS SCHOOL-AGE PARENTS

(1) MARRIED STUDENTS

Married students shall have the same legal rights as unmarried students, including the right to participate in all extracurricular activities.

(2) PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

- (a) The Milwaukee Public Schools recognizes both the right of, and need for, pregnant and parenting students to continue their education. Accordingly, the school system, in keeping with the resources available to it, is committed to offering such alternative programs as are needed to accommodate individual students within the spirit of equal educational opportunity for all students of the school system.
- (b) The Milwaukee Public Schools shall actively seek and strive to achieve a cooperative relationship with other community agencies in order that together the agencies can provide educational and supportive comprehensive services to school-age pregnant and parenting girls students the putative fathers, and their families.
- (c) Further, the Board shall authorize the establishment of program provisions for pregnant and parenting school-age girls students as follows:
 - Students shall have the option of remaining in the schools in which they are regularly enrolled with such <u>educational and extracurricular</u> program modification <u>as deemed</u> <u>appropriate based on individual student need and as determined based on need as</u> <u>documented by a medical/mental health professional</u> <u>as may be prescribed for medical</u> <u>purposes</u>.
 - Students shall have the option of withdrawing from the schools in which they are
 regularly enrolled with instructional services being provided instructional services
 through the homebound and hospital instruction program contingent upon securing
 provision of the appropriate medical recommendation in keeping with established
 requirements.
 - Students shall have the option of continuing their education in a center and/or program
 established by the school system to serve pregnant school aged girls school-age
 parents.
- (d) Pregnant students cannot legally be forced to leave school unless attendance would endanger their health, nor may a student be forced to leave her regular school to attend a special school and/or program, but she shall have the right to choose the special school and/or program voluntarily. Waiting lists for admission to such schools or special classes are illegal and shall not be maintained by the Milwaukee Public Schools.
- (e) By establishing special programs and schools, the Board wishes to guarantee pregnant <u>and</u> <u>parenting</u> students the right to decide for themselves without pressure from school officials whether they want to <u>remain in school</u> <u>continue to attend their school of origin</u>, <u>leave school and</u> receive <u>home</u>

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homebound instruction, or leave school to attend a special public school and/or program for pregnant students school-age parents. If pregnant students leave school during their pregnancy, they shall have the right to return to their schools of origin when their pregnancy is over or to transfer to a different school if they so desire.

(f) Information on alternative programs for pregnant <u>and parenting</u> students shall be available from <u>school social workers and counselors-school-based</u> support staff and the school age parent program <u>staff.</u>

History: Adopted 6-30-75; reaffirmed 3-29-95

Previous Coding: Admin. Policy JFE, prior to May 1995; Admin. Policy 10.25, May 1995-August 1996

Legal Ref.: W.S. 118.13(1), 118.15

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