

## **Students**

### **Assignment of Former Home-Schooled Students to Classes**

Placement of resident home-schooled students who seek to be readmitted to the District's schools will be determined by the Principal who shall consult with members of the professional staff to the extent appropriate. The Principal may direct that a test or tests be administered to help determine grade level. In addition, the Principal is authorized to collect from parents/guardians actual samples of coursework as he/she deems necessary in order to make the determination that the requisite academic standards have been met. The decision of the Principal may be appealed to the Superintendent.

A home-schooled student seeking admission to a District school must meet all residency, age, health examination, immunization and other eligibility prerequisites as mandated by State law and regulations.

Credit approval shall be granted when the student has demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence that he/she has achieved the same level of knowledge or skill as would have been accomplished by successful completion of the District's course(s) for which credit has been requested.

(cf. 5111 – Admission)

(cf. 5122 – Assigning Students to a Teacher and Classes in Grades K-12)

(cf. 5123 – Promotion/Retention)

(cf. 6146 – Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference:       Connecticut General Statutes

10-221(b) Boards of education to prescribe rules

Policy adopted:       April 2, 2019

NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Newtown, Connecticut

## **Students**

### **Assignment of Former Home-Schooled Students to Classes**

When a student enters the District from home-schooled instruction, the District is required to determine the appropriate grade level and course level placement for the student. In order to make such determination, when a student seeks entry, the following procedures/guidelines listed below shall be followed.

The District retains the absolute right for assignment of all students. The parent/guardian, teacher, student (when appropriate), and the Building Principal, shall meet to consider appropriate placement at grade level.

### **Elementary and Middle School (K-8) Students**

At the elementary and middle school levels, the grade placement shall depend upon the age of the student, physical maturity, social adjustment, performance in relation to student learning objectives for grade level and a review of the course work completed during home instruction, as submitted by the parent/guardian as proof of achievement. This may include a portfolio of completed assignments, essays, tests, reports or other materials. The use of placement tests, achievement tests, or other assessments as deemed necessary for evaluation and administered by school staff, shall also be appropriate in determining grade placement.

### **High School**

In addition to the above criteria, the following applies to students seeking entry from home schooling at the high school level (9-12).

- The student must qualify for admission with appropriate grade level skills and course credits.
- The Principal or designee will verify that the student is eligible to be enrolled in school.
- Following consultation with parents/guardians and the administration of academic standardized tests and other assessments, where appropriate, the Principal or designee will make a determination of grade placement. Such determination will be based upon the District's official's professional judgment including, but not limited to, the following:
  - The requests of the parent/guardian;
  - The student's verified performance while on home-based instruction; and
  - When appropriate, the student's academic ability as documented by the results of district-administered standardized achievement tests and other assessments as appropriate.

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#### **High School** (continued)

- Academic credits may be provided by the District to the student provided the student demonstrates appropriate academic proficiency. Proficiency in subject areas/courses is to be determined by tests administered by the respective Department Chairperson. Such tests can consist of semester and/or year-end tests. Any dispute or question to a proficiency determination shall be referred to the Principal.
- The amount of credit(s) to be awarded will be determined by the Department Chairperson(s) on the basis of proficiency with a recommendation to the Principal. Satisfactory proficiency for a specific course will be given a grade of “P” for passing with no letter or numerical designation of level of proficiency.
- When a determination has been made that the student is to receive credit toward graduation for a course(s) taken while home-schooled, the letter “P” as indicated above shall be entered on the student’s transcript, for pass, along with the statement, “Home-Schooled.” These courses are not to be considered in the grade point average or class rank of the student.
- When non-academic courses, such as art or music, are presented for credit by a home-schooled student, the school personnel responsible for determining mastery may elect to review a portfolio of work done by the student and/or allow the student to demonstrate proficiency through a performance.
- Once the appropriate grade level has been determined, the student and his/her parent/guardian and a guidance counselor will develop a planned program of study which will enable the student to make appropriate progress toward fulfilling the District’s graduation requirements.
- All students must complete all courses required by State and federal statutes.
- In order to graduate from Newtown High School the student must be fully enrolled for their twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade.
- No student shall be eligible for valedictorian/salutatorian honors or for designation as an honors graduate who has not been enrolled in the district’s high school for at least two years preceding high school graduation.

(cf. 5111 – Admission)

(cf. 5122 – Assigning Students to a Teacher and Classes in Grades K-12)

(cf. 5123 – Promotion/Retention)

(cf. 6146 – Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6172.6 – Distance Education – Virtual/Online Courses)

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