

Medway Public Schools
Medway, MA

SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY

Policy #06

Policy for Alternative Education
Home Education

The Medway School Committee commits itself to the education of all children under its responsibility, in an approved manner pursuant to Massachusetts State Laws. (Ch., 76, s. 1; Ch. 71, s. 1, 2, 3, 37)

The Medway School Committee authorizes home education programs subject to the following requirements:

1. Parent(s)/guardians must obtain approval of a home education plan prior to removing the students from public school and beginning the home education program. New home education programs should be submitted and approved prior to the beginning of the school year.
2. The home education plan must be submitted to the superintendent or his/her designee for approval. The plan must include the following:
 - a.) The proposed curriculum and any instruction material to be used for each of the proposed subjects.
 - b.) The general qualifications of the parent(s)/guardian who will instruct the student.
 - c.) A plan for periodic assessment of the student to insure educational progress and attainment of minimal standards.
3. The superintendent has the right to approve or reject the home education plan. This must be done within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the plan. If the plan is rejected, the superintendent must provide reasons for the rejection and allow the parent(s)/guardian the opportunity to revise the proposed plan. If the revised plan is rejected by the superintendent, the parent(s)/guardian has the right to petition the school committee to explain the plan and seek approval.
4. The home education plan must be re-approved annually.
5. If assessments show insufficient progress, the parent(s)/guardian shall be notified and a meeting shall be convened to determine whether the home education plan should be modified or revised; or if necessary the home education plan revoked.
6. If a student who has been educated at home under an approved program wishes to enroll in the Medway Public Schools, the decision on course credit and grade placement are to be made by the superintendent or his/her designee on the basis of the home study course content and test or assessments to measure the student's academic achievement.

7. Home education students may participate in co-curricular activities and interscholastic athletics if the following conditions are met:

- a.) The student meets try-out criteria for team eligibility.
- b.) The home education plan for the student has been approved by the superintendent or his/her designee.
- c.) The principal has determined appropriate grade level placement for the home educated student in conjunction with chronological age and educational plan.
- d.) The student resides in the Medway school district and is living with his/her parent(s)/guardian.
- e.) Where applicable, the principal is satisfied the student meets the standards for athletic participation required for all other students as defined in the current MIAA Handbook.
- f.) MIAA requirements relative to academic eligibility must be certified by the principal at the same time that all other student athletes are to be certified as academically eligible.
- g.) If the principal determines that all eligibility standards detailed above have been met, the principal may declare the student eligible to participate in interscholastic competition. The rights, privileges, and responsibilities associated with all other student athletes attending MIAA member schools will apply to home educated students who have satisfied the requirements above.

8. A home education student is not eligible to receive a Medway High School diploma.

9. Revision and review of this policy and procedures shall occur as needed, but at least every two years.

First Reading: **January 22, 1998**
Approved: **February 26, 1998**
Revised: **January 16, 2014**