

Policy

GUIDANCE SERVICES

A guidance program shall be incorporated into the district's educational program to aid students in making informed and responsible decisions and in using effective decision-making processes. The guidance program shall be developed and coordinated by the superintendent in consultation with teaching staff members he/she has identified as possessing necessary skills and abilities, to help students acquire the insights and knowledge they need to become autonomous, mature members of adult society in a democratic nation.

The board of education shall ensure all students have access to adequate and appropriate counseling services. When informing students about possible careers or professional or vocational opportunities, the options presented to students shall not be restricted or limited on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status. No biased or stereotyped tests or guidance or counseling materials shall be used.

The purpose of the guidance program shall be to:

- A. Assist pupils in achieving their optimum development;
- B. Enable pupils to draw the greatest benefit from the offerings of the instructional program of the schools;
- C. Aid pupils in identifying options and making choices in educational planning;
- D. Assist pupils in career awareness and planning;
- E. Help integrate all the pupil's experience so that he/she can better relate school activity to life outside school;
- F. Help pupils learn to make their own decisions and solve problems independently.

A program of guidance/counseling shall be offered to all pupils in grades kindergarten through six and shall be the responsibility of the classroom teacher, the building principal and the pupil assistance counselor all of whom may draw upon the services of other staff members as they are required.

Guidance services shall include establishment of a referral system that guards the privacy of the student and monitors the efficacy of such referrals, when district resources are not sufficient, as in drug or alcohol counseling.

Students shall be encouraged to avail themselves of the help of the guidance department's personnel.

Adopted: November 28, 1990
Revised: April 10, 1991, January 7, 2004
NJSBA Review/Update: September 2017
Readopted: November 28, 2018

Key Words

Guidance Services

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.2 Career development program

GUIDANCE SERVICES (continued)

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-19	Student records; creation, maintenance and retention, security and access; regulations; nonliability
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-19.1	Military recruiters; access to schools and student information directories
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:38-36	Employment certificates to part-time students; revocation
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:46-5.1	Basic child study team services; provision by boards of education and state operated programs
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:7-1.7	Equality in school and classroom practices
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Standards and Assessment
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-3.2	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9B-14.2	Substance awareness coordinator
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9B-14.7	Director of school counseling services
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9B-1.8	School counselor4
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-3.4	Evaluation
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-4.1	Adoption of policies and procedures for the intervention of student alcohol and other drug abuse
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-7.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Student Records
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-12.2	Guidance and counseling

Possible

<u>Cross References:</u> 5000	Concepts and roles in student personnel
5010	Personal goals and objectives for students
*5020	Role of parents/guardians
*5113	Absences and excuses
*5114	Suspension and expulsion
*5120	Assessment of individual needs
*5124	Reporting to parents/guardians
*5125	Student records
*5131	Conduct/discipline
*5131.1	Harassment, intimidation and bullying
*5131.6	Drugs, alcohol, tobacco (substance abuse)
*6142.12	Career education
*6145	Extracurricular activities
*6146	Graduation requirements
*6164.4	Child study team
*6171.1	Remedial instruction
*6171.2	Gifted and talented
*6171.4	Special education
*6172	Alternative educational programs
*6173	Home instruction

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.