

Regulation

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

The Passaic Board of Education believes that the educational goals of this district are best implemented by a student's exposure to the entire education program offered and that every student enrolled in this district must be encouraged to complete a program of instruction appropriate to his or her needs. While statute requires attendance of each student only until 16 years of age, it is in the best interests of both students and the community that they complete the educational program that will equip them with skills and increase their chances for a successful and fulfilling life beyond the schools. Therefore, the board adopts the following procedure in order to make every effort to retain all students in the school system until graduation.

The board directs that whenever a student has been identified as a potential withdrawal, or has made known his or her wish to withdraw, every effort should be made to determine the underlying reason and all available resources of the district should be used to assist him or her. Students will be permitted to withdraw from school only in accordance with law.

Before any student withdraws, the superintendent shall ensure that the following procedures are followed:

- A. The student's school counselor shall meet the student and attempt to assist him or her in any way possible to continue in school, including the provision of psychological, family or any other counseling services.
- B. The school counselor must contact the student's parents or guardians in order to enlist their assistance in these efforts. No student, under the age of 18 shall be allowed to withdraw without evidence of prior meetings with parents and explicit written consent by the parent/guardian.
- C. The school counselor may refer the student to a staff member designated to provide intervention and support for students identified as at risk of withdrawing. The school counselor's and/or identified staff member's efforts should include, at a minimum, an effort to help the student define his or her own educational and life goals and help in the planning of the realization of those goals. Career and other schooling alternatives, including GED class opportunities should be presented. In addition, opportunities available in the armed forces must be shared with the student.
- D. The school counselor shall make a written report to the building principal and superintendent or his/her designee describing his/her meeting with the student and the opportunities and alternatives offered to the student. The report shall contain the name of the student, the dates(s) on which he or she met with the student and with the student's parents and shall detail the results of the meeting(s).

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL (regulation continued)

- E. The building principal shall meet with the student and parent/guardian to ensure that the above procedures have been followed, and provide information related to available programs identified to support students, including but not limited to opportunities in the armed forces, local high school equivalency programs, and school counseling services.

First Reading:	November 3, 2016
Second Reading:	November 21, 2016
Adopted:	November 21, 2016