

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF JOHNSON CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY	POLICY: 420.1
---	---------------

Enrollment and Appropriate Placement of Home-Based Education Students

The Law

Under Wisconsin Statute 118.15(4), a parent, guardian or designee has the right to select a home-based private educational program (HBPEP) for his or her child or children, in order to comply with the compulsory school attendance law. The statute requires the parent or guardian to register a child for HBPEP by completing form PI-1206 and submitting it to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). The statute contains no authority for any agency or school district to monitor home-based private educational programs or to verify hours of instruction of sequential curriculum.

Wisconsin Statute 115.003(3g) states, “home-based private educational program means a program of educational instruction provided to a child by the child’s parent or guardian or by a person designated by the parent or guardian. An instructional program provided to more than one family unit does not constitute a home-based private educational program.”

Wisconsin Statute 118.156(1)(d) states the program must provide a “sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, science and health.”

Wisconsin Statute 118.165(1)(c) states the program must provide “at least 875 hours of instruction each school year.”

Wisconsin Statute 118.165(1)(e) states that the program must not be “operated or instituted for the purpose of avoiding or circumventing the compulsory school attendance requirements under s.118.15(1)(a).”

Wisconsin Statute 118.145(4) states that “the school board of a school district operating high school grades shall allow a pupil enrolled in a private school or a pupil enrolled in a home-based educational program, who has met the standards for admission to high school under 118.145(1), to take up to two courses during the school year if the pupil resides in the district in which the public school is located and if the school board determines that there is sufficient space in the classroom.”

Participation in the Public School while Being Schooled by a Home-Based Private Educational Program

The School District of Johnson Creek respects the choice that a parent, guardian, or designee makes to provide a home-based private educational program (HBPEP) for their child or children.

If the choice is made to provide education with a home-based private educational program, accessibility to school district services will be determined as follows:

1. A student may take up to two courses during the school year (four if semester courses) if there is sufficient space in the classroom, and the student is qualified academically and by age. The student must abide by the school rules and regulations including attendance. Transportation will not be provided.
2. A student in an HBPEP is eligible to participate in co-curricular programs if the student is taking a course in the public school that is directly related to the co-curricular activity.
3. A student in an HBPEP is eligible to participate in an extra-curricular activity.
4. To be eligible to participate in WIAA governed athletic programs a student must be on the attendance role for purposes of state aids and be working successfully in a minimum of our courses.
5. The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) requires public schools to provide a genuine opportunity for equitable participation in special education and related services to students enrolled in private schools. The statutory definition of private schools does not include home-based private educational programs. The School District of Johnson Creek will not provide special education services to children in HBPEP because of the limitations that exist in providing a strong integrated service to the student. The District will evaluate any children referred for potential exceptional educational needs (EEN), and will offer to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to these children should they choose to enroll in the public school.
6. A high school diploma will not be awarded to a student who completes an HBPEP and requests to graduate from Johnson Creek High School.

Placement of a Student Returning From a Home-Based Private Educational Program

Students entering or reentering Johnson Creek Schools after attending a home-based education program, shall be governed by the following:

1. For any pupil who has been attendance in a home-based private education program for a period of sixty (60) days or more and wishes to enter or reenter the School District of Johnson Creek, the District will confirm with the Department of Public Instruction that such homeschooled setting was approved using form PI 1206.

The parent/guardian will also supply the District the following:

- A. Home-School Calendar/Log
A copy of the Home-Based calendar or log that verifies that each school term or Home-Based Private Educational Program instruction consisted of a minimum of 875

hours. Wisconsin Statute 118.165(1).

B. Curriculum Taught

Copies of the sequential curriculum that was taught in the (6) mandated subject areas. Wisconsin Statute 118.165(1)(2).

C. Performance Records

Assessment measurement used.

II. K-8 Placement

A. Examination

An examination will be required to establish grade placement. The examination to be used will be determined by Pupil Services. The exam will be composed of questions which test the students' knowledge of Literacy, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.

B. Placement Factors

The grade placement examination will be administered by the school psychologist. Placement recommendations will be at the grade level felt to be appropriate to the child's chronological age, knowledge, and/or social maturity as determined by school administration. Normally grade placement will be determined by:

1. number of years in home-based instruction;
2. achievement at the 25th percentile or above, on appropriate standardized achievement tests;
3. evidence of achievement provided through portfolios or other authentic assessment.

The building administrator or designee shall place the student immediately at the grade level deemed appropriate. All testing, interviews, verification and evaluation of previous educational settings shall be completed within thirty (30) calendar days (but within school year calendar). At a formal conference with parents at the end of the thirty (30) day period, the building administrator shall verify that original placement was correct or that a different placement is warranted.

III. 9-12 PLACEMENT

A. Temporary Placement

Temporary placement will be made on the basis of the information received at the

time of registration. Formal placement of pupils entering grades 9-12 will be made by the building administrator based on input of a placement team of three or more of the following, as determined by the high school building administrator and pupil services.

1. Building Administrator
2. Guidance Counselor
3. Teachers (Representatives of Departments)
4. Psychologist
5. Specialists (Reading, Speech & Language, Nurse, etc.)
6. Director of Special Education/Director of Pupil Services

B. Examination

An examination will be required to establish grade placement. The examination to be used will be determined by Pupil Services. The exam will be composed of questions which test the students' knowledge of Literacy, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.

The information used by placement teams may come from a variety of sources including standardized testing, if requested by building administrator or Pupil Services. Other information may include previous records, parental interviews and pupil interviews. Items for consideration are chronological age, functional achievement level, social maturity, and approved credits verified by the principal. Formal placement will be made as soon as possible, but will not exceed thirty (30) calendar days.

If placement is made to the sophomore class (10th grade) or higher, seven (7) credits shall be allowed toward high school graduation for each of the high school years below the grade level of placement. Courses taken in a home-based private education program shall be recorded in the pupil's permanent record card. These credits shall be recorded as satisfactory (S) and no grades or grade point average from a home-based program will be used for class standing or rank.

In the event that a home-based pupil did attend a recognized accredited public or private high school for a single or multiple semesters or years, the credit earned at such recognized school or schools may be accepted and recorded by the school.

C. Transfer of Placement

Each transfer student shall have a forty-five school day probationary period during which time the student shall be expected to demonstrate classroom academic skills commensurate with the student's placement. If during this time school officials determine the placement needs to be revised, the principal may make a placement revision.

D. Appeal Process

In the event that parent(s)/guardian(s) or student(s), if 18 years of age or older, is/are not satisfied with placement and/or transcript/records evaluation, an appeal may be made to the district administrator. The appeal shall be in written form and made within ten school days of placement and/or transcript/records evaluation.

Adopted: 6/9/99
Reviewed: 12/13/00
Reviewed: 11/26/07
Reviewed: 3/28/16
Revised: 6/21/21