

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF JOHNSON CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY	POLICY: 444
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School-Age Parents Policy

It is the policy of the Johnson Creek School District to provide all students with the most appropriate educational program that will allow each student the opportunity to maximize his/her full potential. Marital, maternal, or paternal status shall not affect the rights and privileges of students to receive a public education or to take part in any co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activity offered by the district.

A school-age parent is any person who is under the age of 21 and who is not a high school graduate and is a parent, is an expectant parent or a person who had been pregnant within the immediate 120 days. The school district shall make available all of its resources in assisting the school-age parent to meet his/her responsibilities and this assistance may include decision-making counseling and/or education in

1. pre-natal health care
2. post-natal care
3. child development
4. nutrition
5. other health-related issues

Referral to outside agencies may be made when warranted. Every effort will be made to enable the student to make satisfactory progress toward meeting high school graduation requirements.

Verification of school-age parent status shall be required. For female students, medical verification of pregnancy or a birth certificate or other evidence which legally establishes parenthood shall be furnished to the program coordinator. For male students, evidence of paternity may be by marriage, adoption, or by presumption or determination as provided by the Wisconsin Statutes 891.41 or 767.45 respectively.

Should the school-age parent require a program to supplement or replace the regular educational program, the procedure shall include the following:

1. Referral by the school counselor to initiate a psychoeducational evaluation shall be made. The school counselor shall become the school-age parent program coordinator.
2. The program coordinator shall obtain permission to evaluate from the school-age parent or from the student's parent if the parents rights have not been terminated.

A staffing will be conducted by the program coordinator to determine the school-age parent's needs. The staffing may include the student, the student's parent(s), teacher(s), and appropriate specialists. Staffing participants shall consider:

- a. The student's current educational program
 - b. Program modification needs
 - c. Sources of special programming
 - d. Acquisition of timely relevant skills and progress toward meeting graduation requirements
3. A report shall be written by the program coordinator which shall include a description of the goals and objectives, staffing decisions, program implementation requirements, and evaluation procedures to be certain that the student's needs are being met. Any plan shall have the written consent of the school-age parent and, if required, a parent.
 4. If homebound instruction is required for the female student, a physician's statement will be required stating the timeline of need for homebound instruction. If in the opinion of the administration or the program coordinator, the health of the female student may be endangered by continued curricular, co-curricular, or extra-curricular activities because of the pregnancy, the student's physician's permit may be required to continue the activities.
 5. The high school administrator will be notified of the need for a homebound instructor and will be responsible for arranging for this need.
 6. When participation in the homebound program ceases prior to graduation from high school, the program coordinator shall in cooperation with the guidance counselor and high school administrator develop a plan for the transition to the regular school program.

Evaluation of this policy shall be made annually for the purpose of determining program effectiveness and the need for any modifications to the program.

(For those students having special education needs, reference should be made to the special education handbook.)

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