

HOME SCHOOLING

The Massachusetts General Law requires the school committee through the Superintendent of schools to determine that a Home Schooling program meet with the minimum standards established for public schools in the Commonwealth prior to approving such a program.

When a parent or guardian of a student between the age of 6-16 wants to establish a home-based educational program for his/her child, the following procedures shall be followed.

Prior to removing the child from public school:

The parent/guardian must submit written notification of establishment of the home-based program to the Superintendent of schools 14 days before the program is established, and resubmit notification on an annual basis as long as the child or children are being educated in a home-based environment. In exceptional circumstances, the Superintendent may waive the 14 day requirement.

The parent/guardian must certify in writing, on a form provided by the district, or any acceptable alternative, the name, age, and place of residence of each child in the program.

The Superintendent shall give the notice to produce pertinent records if there is probable cause to believe the program is not in compliance with the law. Factors to be considered by the Superintendent or school committee in deciding whether or not to approve a home education proposal may be:

1. The number of hours of instruction within 180-days.
2. The competency of the parents to teach the children.
3. The proposed curriculum, the textbooks, workbooks, or other instructional aids to be used by the children and the lesson plans to be used by the parents.
4. Periodic standardized testing of the children to ensure educational progress and the attainment of minimum standards, as prescribed by the Massachusetts Frameworks. Other means of evaluating the progress of the children may be used subject to the approval of the parents and appropriate administrator.

A student being educated in a home-based program within the district may have access to public school activities of extra-curricular nature outside of the school day upon approval of the Superintendent.

A student is not eligible to receive a Milford High School diploma.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 69:1D; 76:1, Care and Protection of Charles
Care and Protections of Charles – MASS. Supreme Judicial Court
399 Mass. 324 (1987)
Structured Learning Time Regulation 603 CMR 27.02

MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Notice of Intent to Pursue a Program of Home Education
Academic Year _____

Instructions: Please complete this form, attach any additional information and forward it to the Superintendent of Schools, 31 West Fountain St., Milford, MA 01757 prior to the starting date of the home education program. If your child has an active IEP or 504 Plan, please provide a copy. Expect a response to this from the Superintendent or designee within ten days.

A. Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Telephone (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

Student (s) _____ Age _____

B. On a separate sheet, briefly describe the proposed curriculum to be taught including textbooks, workbooks and instructional aides to be used.

C. Academic background, life experience and/or qualifications of those who will be directing the education of the child(ren), as they relate to the instructional program described in Section B.

D. Check the intended method of assessment to be used followed by a brief description.

_____ Daily logs, journals, progress reports, and portfolios or dated work samples.

_____ An independent report made by someone acceptable to both the superintendent and parent(s) or guardian(s).

_____ Annual Standardized test results

_____ Any other method agreed to by both the superintendent and home educator (s)

The following signature confirms the intent to provide a minimum of 900 hours of instruction, (990 for secondary high school students).

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date Submitted

The signature of the school official indicates final approval of this plan. A parent/administrative conference may be scheduled.

Signature of Superintendent of Schools

Date of Response

Failure of a home educator to abide in good faith by the procedures outlined above may result in the School Committee taking action under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 76, sections 2 and/or 4, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent. CHINS proceedings pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 119, section 21, will not be invoked for any child pursuing a home education program.

*REF: M.G.L. Chapter 76, Sections 1,2, & 4
Charles Decision*

Adoption Date: 5/21/98

Revised: 5/7/20