HOME SCHOOL INSTRUCTION

This Superintendent’s Regulations applies to appropriate Department of Instruction Staff, Principals, Assistant Principals, Guidance Counselors, and School Attendance Officers who require notification that a parent or guardian has submitted to the Department of Accountability and Instructional Services a Notice of Intent to Provide Home Instruction as required by VA Code § 22.1-254.1.A.

ANNUAL NOTICE OF INTENT TO HOME SCHOOL:

A parent or guardian who elects home instruction must notify the school division Superintendent or designee no later than August 15th of the intent to do so for the coming school year, provide a description of the curriculum limited to a list of the subjects to be studied for the coming year and provide evidence of having met one of the criteria described in § 22.1-254.1.A for providing home instruction.

Parents or guardians who move into the school division or begin home instruction after the school year has begun must notify the Superintendent of their intent to provide home instruction and comply with the provisions of the statute within 30 days of such notice. (§ 22.1-254.1.B).

The notice may be in the form of a letter or the York County School Division Notice of Intent to Provide Home Instruction (Form I-GU-2) and must identify the child or children involved.

The Department of Accountability and Instructional Services will notify the student’s zoned school that the parent or guardian has submitted a Notice of Intent to Provide Home Instruction within 10 days after receipt of form. The parent or guardian has 30 days to submit required documentation as stipulated by the Virginia Department of Education guidance document, Guidelines for Home Instruction in Virginia-Information for Parents Revised July 2012. Once the Notice of Intent to Provide Home Instruction has been received by the Department of Accountability and Instructional Services, the parent or guardian may initiate home instruction.

Within 30 days after the receipt of intent form, the zoned school will be notified by the Department of Accountability and Instructional Services whether the parent or guardian has complied with mandates outlined by the VDOE guidance document.

If parent or guardian has not complied with mandated documentation within the 30 day timeline, both parent or guardian, and zoned school will be notified that the student is considered truant as of the documented date. The zoned school will notify the YCSD Truant Officer of student’s absence.

EVIDENCE OF ACHIEVEMENT:

To comply with § 22.1-254.1 of the Code of Virginia, the parent is required to submit, by the following August 1, evidence of the child's academic achievement in one of the following ways:

- Evidence that the child has attained a composite score at or above the fourth stanine on any nationally normed standardized achievement test; or
• An evaluation or assessment which the school division Superintendent or designee determines to indicate that the child is achieving an adequate level of educational growth and progress, including, but not limited to:
  o An evaluation letter from a person licensed to teach in any state, or a person with a master’s degree or higher in an academic discipline, having knowledge of the child’s academic progress, stating that the child is achieving an adequate level of education growth and progress; or
  o A report card or transcript from a community college or college, college distance learning program, or home-education correspondence school.

If the parent does not provide the required evidence of progress, the Superintendent or designee may place the home instruction program on probation for one year. (For the purpose of this provision, "not provided" means either that no information is submitted or the child is not making satisfactory academic progress as determined by the results of testing or the results of an evaluation or assessment.) If this happens, the parent will be required to file a remediation plan and evidence of the ability to provide an adequate education for the child. The Superintendent or designee may determine whether these submissions are adequate.

If the plan and evidence are not accepted or the required evidence is not provided by August 1 following the probationary year, home instruction shall cease and the parent must make other arrangements that comply with the compulsory attendance law; § 22.1-254. (§ 22.1-254.1.C)

The evaluation requirement does not apply to children under the age of six as of September 30 of the school year.

PART-TIME ADMISSION TO YORK COUNTY SCHOOLS:
The York County School Division does not participate in part-time admissions.

USE OF YORK COUNTY SCHOOLS FACILITIES:
The York County School Division does not permit home schooled students to use school facilities (i.e. library, gym.)

PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/SPORTS:
Home schooled students may not participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities or sports governed by the Virginia High School League (VHSL).

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Eric Williams, Ed.D.
Division Superintendent