

### WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

The Board affirms that, while statute requires attendance of each student from six (6) years of age, or five (5) years of age if enrolled in kindergarten, and not formally withdrawn, until eighteen (18) years of age, it is in the best interests of both students and the community that they complete the educational program that will equip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. A child enrolled in kindergarten is deemed to be of compulsory school age unless the child's parent or guardian, at the parent or guardian's discretion and in consultation with the child's teacher and principal, formally withdraws the child from kindergarten.

The Board directs that whenever a student wishes to withdraw, effort should be made to determine the underlying reason for such action and the resources of the District should be used to assist the student in reaching his/her career goals. Prior to withdrawal of the student, an exit interview shall be conducted to determine reasons for the withdrawal and actions that could be taken to keep the student in school. The student shall be informed of opportunities to continue his/her education. In addition, the student must complete a survey in a format prescribed by the Department of Education to provide data on his/her reasons for terminating enrollment and actions taken by the District to keep students enrolled. No student under the age of eighteen (18) will be permitted to withdraw without the written consent of a parent and in compliance with State law.

Whenever a student under the age of eighteen (18) withdraws from school without moving out of state, transferring to another approved school, being granted an age and schooling certificate, or enrolling in and attending an approved program, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the registrar of Motor Vehicles and the Judge of the Juvenile Court.

Such notification is to be given within two (2) weeks after the Superintendent (or designee) confirms the student is not properly enrolled in and attending another approved school or program or has moved out of state.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures for withdrawal from school which:

- A. make counseling services available to any student who wishes to withdraw;
- B. help the student define his/her own educational life goals and help plan the realization of those goals;

- C. inform the student of alternative programs;
- D. advise students of their right to return prior to their twenty-second (22nd) birthday;
- E. assure the timely return of all District-owned supplies and equipment in the possession of the student.

In accordance with Policy 5610, the Superintendent or designee shall initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion under Board policy even if the student withdraws from school prior to the hearing or decision to impose the expulsion. Any resulting expulsion shall be imposed for the same duration it would have been had the student remained enrolled.

F.S. 1002.20, 1003.21

Revised 4/10/07