

ORANGE WINDSOR SUPERVISORY UNION

ROYALTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Participation of Home Study Students in School Programs and Activities

BACKGROUND

The School District recognizes that some families believe home schooling is the best educational format for their children. The School District believes that home study and fully enrolled students can benefit from participating together in school activities and programs and strives to provide educational services in ways, which are consistent with the needs of both fully enrolled students and home study students.

POLICY

In accordance with Act 119 of the 1998 Vermont legislative session, home study students may participate in courses, programs, activities, and services and use school educational materials and equipment. Close communications between home study students and their local public schools are encouraged to promote the benefits of joint participation.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR HOME STUDY STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Special Services: Special education services are available to all students found eligible under criteria set forth in state and federal regulations. Services will be provided in accordance with the conditions outlined in the Orange-Windsor Supervisory Union Policy. The I.E.P. Team has the responsibility to outline services to be provided.

Compliance with Procedures: All students will comply with the application and enrollment deadlines as well as all legal and policy requirements such as immunization and the provision of student information including health records, emergency contacts and other necessary background information outlined in the administrative procedures.

All students must abide by rules of conduct and other conditions set forth in the student handbook, school policies and procedures.

Supervision of Students: School personnel are responsible for supervising students during their approved participation in school- sponsored activities. Parents of home study students must provide supervision for their children when they are at school but are not participating formally in school activities.

Transportation: Home study students may participate in the regular school transportation

arrangements to attend school programs in which they are enrolled. The school will not supply special transportation except as provided for in law.

PARTICIPATION OF HOME STUDY STUDENTS IN PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS

1. Home study students must supply the school with a copy of their formal home study enrollment notification from the Commissioner of Education.
2. All students are subject to the same age, performance, and pre-requisite standards for admission to courses and co-curricular activities.
3. Home study students seeking admission to courses requiring prerequisites will be asked to demonstrate academic achievement comparable to that required of fully enrolled students meeting prerequisite standards. The principal or his/her designee will discuss alternative ways to demonstrate achievement with the parents of home study students. Final determination of a student's qualifications to enroll in a course requiring prerequisites will be made by the principal.
4. Students may not enroll for single subjects which are taught as part of integrated Courses. Those courses that cover two or more subjects whether taught by a single individual or team are considered integrated courses. Students may, however, seek admission to an integrated course.
5. Participation in athletic and other extra-curricular programs and activities will be in compliance with the school's eligibility requirements as well as with the 1999 guidelines (or subsequent revisions) adopted by the Vermont Principals Association.
6. It may be neither practical nor feasible for home study students to participate in special programs that have unclear or flexible schedules. The parents of home study students must take the initiative to check with the school on the scheduling of events and possible changes that may occur.
7. The parents of home study students may be asked to provide supervision for some activities on the same basis as the parents of fully enrolled students.

8. Home study students may participate in the school's standardized testing program at the regularly scheduled times after giving appropriate notice to the school as outlined in the administrative procedures.

USE OF FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS BY HOME STUDY STUDENTS IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. The use by home study students does not interrupt or disrupt regularly scheduled uses.
2. The request for use has been approved according to the administrative procedures

that apply to all requests for such use.

3. Equipment may be removed from the school with approval of the appropriate school administrator.

4. Library books and other materials are signed out according to established procedures

and are subject to replacement or fines for damage or loss as defined in the

administrative procedures.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

1. The school will include home study students on the school register and count them

for the purpose of state aid for the portion of the school day in which students are enrolled in academic courses.

2. For each co-curricular activity in which a non-enrolled home study student

participates, the school shall count 0.03 FTE as allowed under rule 9200.3.1.

3. The capacities of classroom courses and other co-curricular activities are outlined in

administrative procedures and updated regularly to reflect the class sizes specifically desired by the district, the capacity of special equipment used in science, language, business laboratories or other specialized classrooms, or other limitations on participation.

4. In cases where applications for enrollment exceed capacity, first priority for

enrollment in curricular and co-curricular activities will be determined considering the following for

all students:

- a. The highest priority will be given to fully enrolled students (students carrying five or more credits).
- b. The second priority will be if the course or activity is needed as a pre-requisite to another course or activity. *
- c. Students in higher grades will have priority over students in lower grades. *
- d. Royalton residents have a priority over non-resident students in cases where students are not fully enrolled. *
- e. In the absence of other prevailing factors, enrollment will be determined by first-come, first served until the class or activity is filled.

* Note- In situations where there is conflict in circumstances described in b., c and d., the Administration will determine which priority(ies) will prevail.

5. When choices for admission to either academic or co-curricular programs must be

made because of limited space, the School District will report to the Commissioner of Education on the form provided. The District shall provide other information on the integration of home study students into the public school as requested by the Commissioner.

RECEIPT OF A SOUTH ROYALTON HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

In order for a student to receive a South Royalton High School Diploma, the student must have earned ten credits at the School and be fully enrolled (*carrying a minimum of five credits*) for the senior year or have received prior credits from an accredited Public or Private School that would allow the students to meet South Royalton's current graduation requirements. *Credits earned during the senior year will apply toward the required ten credit total.*

Home study students who wish to be considered for "Honor Roll" must carry a minimum of five credits at South Royalton School. In addition, class ranking and eligibility for Valedictorian/Salutatorian etc. will be based on a minimum of fifteen South Royalton School credits.

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

1. The principal (or designee) is responsible for administering this policy and for all decisions made under the direction of this policy. The principal will act on all requests within 10 working days

of receiving the request.

2. Appeals Process: Should a parent disagree or have concerns with the principal's

decision, an appeal may be made to the Superintendent of Schools, PO. Box 240, South Royalton, VT 05068 (Phone 763-8840). Within ten working days of receiving an appeal, the Superintendent shall meet with the parent(s) and make a decision on the appeal in a prompt fashion. A final appeal of the Superintendent's decision may be made to the School Board which will schedule a timely hearing and render a final decision within ten working days of the hearing date.

Legal References:

16 V.S.A. 563 (24)

Vermont State Board of Education Manual of Rules & Practices #~4400,

9200.3.1, 2367

20 U.S.C. s.1400 et seq., IDEA

34 C.F.R. s. 300.450-2, 76.650-662

Date Warned: 12-30-99, 1-2-2000, 5-2-2000

Date Reviewed: 9-28-99, 10-5-99, 11-16-99, 12-21-99, 1-4-2000, 6-6-2000

Date Adopted: 6-6-2000

Guidelines for Creating Administrative Procedures for Implementing This Policy

Registration for participation procedures

- Should outline steps and time frames for student registration in academic courses

and co-curricular activities as well as for response to the registration request

- Should include a form that requests all needed information

- Might include a "contract" or letter of agreement to be signed by the student that details the responsibilities to comply with all attendance, homework, behavior, and other rules and policies, notes what resources the student should be familiar with (i.e. Student Handbook, others)

- Where appropriate, should contain information about registering at other schools which accept tuition from the district of residence

Other Administrative Procedures should

- Define capacity in terms of class size for applicable courses based on desired number of students, limitations of lab materials, or other relevant items
- Outline any specific criteria not mentioned in policy that will be used to make decisions
- Outline in general how students will be assessed before gaining admission to courses or other activities requiring pre-requisites
- Outline academic reporting standards and time frames that parents of home study students will be expected to certify
- Specify schedules for the administration of standardized tests

Specify any appropriate fee schedules that will apply to all users