

STUDENT PERSONNEL

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WHILE PREGNANT

It is the policy of Independent School District No. 31 that pregnant students shall not be excluded from any education program or activity except when the student requests voluntarily to participate in an alternative program or activity or upon the request of a physician.

In addition, the school district commits to the following:

1. We will not commit to any rule concerning a student's actual or potential parental, family or marital status which treats students differently on the basis of sex.
2. We will not discriminate against any student or exclude any student from an educational program or activity, including any class or extracurricular activity, on the basis of such student's pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy or recovery there from, unless the student requests voluntarily to participate in a separate portion of the program or activity.
3. We will require a pregnant student to obtain the certification of a physician that the student is physically and emotionally able to continue participation in the normal education program or activity so long as such a certification is required of all students for other physical or emotional conditions requiring the attention of a physician.
4. Pregnant students who select alternative programs or activities will be given assurance that these programs or activities will be comparable to the quality of programs offered to non-pregnant students.
5. The school district will treat pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy and recovery there from in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disability with respect to any medical or hospital benefit service, plan or policy which such recipient administers, operates, offers, or participated in with respect to students admitted to the recipient's educational program or activity.
6. Pregnant students who are absent from school shall be reinstated to the status held prior to the absence. This absence shall be approved as long as deemed necessary by the attending physician.
7. Minnesota Statute 126.235 Educational Program for Pregnant Minors and Minor Parents: The school district, upon request, will design a school program for a pregnant minor that enables the student to earn a high school diploma. The school principal will designate one staff member to monitor this program at least quarterly. If social services are involved there will be consultation with the agency.
8. Minnesota Statute 121.883 Program for Public Education Regarding the Effects of Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use During Pregnancy: Pregnant students who use controlled substances will have the following information made available to them:

- a. Each pregnant student will meet with a school nurse to learn about the effects of controlled substances during pregnancy.
- b. All information will be technically accurate with new information added as it becomes available.
- c. High risk students, those who have a high risk of pregnancy along with a high risk of using controlled substances, will be monitored by a school counselor or social worker and reported to social services as mandated by law.
- d. Inservice on this subject will be provided to school district staff who come in contact with students who are pregnant and are high risk with respect to the use of controlled substances.
- e. The school district will cooperate with local agencies who work with students who have a high risk of pregnancy along with a high risk of controlled substance abuse.