

HOME EDUCATION

Massachusetts General Law (Chapter 76, Section 1) requires the Plainville School Committee to determine that a Home Schooling program meets with minimum standards established for the public schools in Massachusetts prior to approving such a program. The Plainville School Committee intends to assist the child/children's parent(s) or guardian(s) to develop an educational program that is appropriate and educationally sound.

When a parent of a student in grades one through six wants to establish a home-based educational program for his/her child, the following procedures must be followed in accordance with the law:

- A. Before removing a student from the Plainville Public Schools, the parent/guardian must submit written notification of the establishment of the home-based program to the Superintendent of Schools at least 6 weeks before the program is established.
- B. The parent/guardian must resubmit notification of the continuation of a home-based program on an annual basis as long as the child/children is being educated in a home-based environment.
- C. The parent/guardian must complete a form provided by Plainville delineating the name, age, and place of residence of each child in the home-based program.

The Administrator of Special Education will notify parents to produce documentation required by law if there is probable cause to believe the program is not in compliance with the law. Factors to be considered by the Superintendent and/or the Administrator of Special Education in deciding whether or not to approve a home education proposal may be:

- A. The proposed curriculum and the number of hours of instruction in each of the proposed subjects.
- B. The competency of the parents to teach the children.
- C. The textbooks, workbooks and other instructional aids to be used by the children, and the lesson plans and teaching manuals to be used by the parents.
- D. Periodic standardized testing of the children to ensure educational progress and the attainment of minimum standards.

A student being educated in a home-based program within the District may have access to public school activities of either a curricular or extracurricular nature upon approval of the Superintendent.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 69:1D, 76:1, Care and Protection of Charles
Care and Protection of Charles - Mass. Supreme Judicial Court 399 Mass. 324
(1987)

Revised: March 26, 2019