

PROGRAM FOR PREGNANT SCHOOL-AGED GIRLS

- I. Program Overview.
 - A. Purpose

The procedures outlined below are to ensure that the educational needs of pregnant school-aged girls (married or unmarried, up to age twenty-one (21) are met by the School District of New Berlin as required by State Law (Chapter 115, subchapter IV, Wisconsin Statutes).
 - B. Eligibility

To qualify for this program a girl or her parents must provide the school with a written physician's statement verifying pregnancy.
- II. Procedures of referral and Implementation of Service
 - A. Referral
 1. Whenever a girl and/or her parents inform a guidance counselor, teacher or any other staff member that the girl is believed to be pregnant, that person shall notify the school nurse immediately.
 2. The school nurse shall confer with the girl to ascertain whether a medical diagnosis has been established and to inform the girl that she will be excluded from physical education and other strenuous activities unless the nurse receives a written medical release for physical education.
 3. With the girl's knowledge, if under eighteen (18), and with knowledge and consent if over eighteen (18), the nurse shall contact the parents and arrange a conference between the girl, her parents and the nurse. The purpose of this meeting will be either to inform the parents of the pregnancy and to apprise the girl and her parents of the services for which she is eligible, or to advise them to seek a medical diagnosis. If the pregnancy has already been diagnostically confirmed, the guidance counselor and/or the psychologist may be included in this conference, and it will focus upon informing the girl and her parents of the following services:
 - a. Continuation of regular classes with counseling from the school nurse and the school counselor.
 - b. Reduce and/or modified program (for example, drop specific classes or reduce required attendance time).
 - c. Reduce and/or modified program combined with homebound instruction.
 - d. Homebound instruction alone (if the girl's psychological or physical condition renders her unable to attend school, as verified by a physician's statement).
 - e. The nurse will also provide information regarding community services such as Consultation for Unwed Mothers (if applicable) offered by Waukesha County Social Services, but with the understanding that the girl or her parents must initiate any request of such services. (The School District of New Berlin will not release information regarding school aged pregnant girls to any outside agency without a written request for the girl and her parents.)
 - B. Implementation of Services

Following the conference described in II, A, 3 above, the girl and her parents may elect any one of the following alternatives:

1. To not request any special services from the School District of New Berlin.
2. To request special services (such as counseling and modification of class schedule) which do not require homebound instruction.
3. To request special services which require homebound instruction. If, at any time during pregnancy and up to two months after the birth of the child or other termination of pregnancy, the girl and her parents request homebound instruction, the following procedure shall be followed to comply with requirements of the Department of Public Instruction:
 - a. The request shall be made by the parents through the counselor to the school principal.
 - b. The principal shall send to the parents a Consent for Evaluation (form 01) and an official Physician's Statement (PI-DHC-137).
 - c. When these two forms have been completed and returned to the principal, the principal shall convene a multidisciplinary team consisting of the school nurse, the school counselor and the coordinator of special education. The girl and her parents shall be invited to attend the team meeting if they wish.
 - d. The purpose of the MDT staffing will be to determine whether or not homebound instructions is appropriate.
 - e. The MDT shall indicate in its Summary and Recommendations the subject areas to be covered during the homebound instruction period.
 - f. The Special Recommendation issued by the coordinator of special education must be signed by both the girl and her parents before homebound instruction may begin.
 - g. The building principal will be responsible for securing instructional services and for communicating with the parents regarding the date on which services will be initiated and the schedule to be followed.
 - h. New Berlin School Board policy allows for up to five hours per week of instruction time for home bound students.
 - i. When the girl returns to school, the principal will notify both the school nurse and Student Services to indicate the date on which homebound instruction was terminated.
 - j. Upon return to school, a written medical excuse form or a release from physical education form shall be submitted to the school nurse.

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