

PROGRAMS FOR PUPILS AT RISK

The Board of Education recognizes that certain conditions place children at risk of not acquiring the knowledge, skills, behaviors, and attitudes necessary for school success, school completion, and successful functioning as an adult in society.

A “pupil as risk” means a pupil who is in danger of failure to achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum content Standards and the high school graduation requirements or dropping out of school because of specific cognitive, affective, economic, social, and/or health needs. The conditions that may place a pupil at risk include the pupil’s failure to acquire the essential skills needed to stay on grade level or the pupil’s performance below minimum levels of proficiency; history of adjustment or behavioral problems; placement on long-term suspension for violation of school rules; history of poor school attendance; being limited in English language proficiency; being disruptive or disaffected; pregnancy or parenthood; failure to qualify for promotion or graduation; condition of poverty as defined by his/her eligibility for free meals or free milk and/or exhibiting other characteristics identified by the Board.

Pupils who perform below acceptable levels on statewide assessments of the Core Curriculum Content Standards shall participate in remedial programs. Proficiency shall also be evaluated through multiskills assessment, standardized tests, diagnostic instruments, teacher observation and pupil progress reports.

Programs and services shall meet the goals of:

1. Enhancing the health, self-esteem, and acquisition of the life skills necessary for age-appropriate development and productive functioning in the school setting and society;
2. Identifying and assisting pupils who are not meeting standards for behavior and achievement in areas such as attendance, conduct, and mastery of the curriculum, as well as performing below state minimum levels of proficiency; and
3. Improving the school climate so that pupils experience school as a safe, supportive, and disciplined place where academic and interpersonal growth and learning can take place.

The programs shall include procedures to evaluate pupil achievement related to the remedial program objectives and standards. Continuous communication between teaching staff members and Parents/Guardians of pupils participating in remedial educational programs shall be coordinated by the chief school administrator. These programs shall be supplemental to the regular program and designed to assist students who have academic, social, economic or environmental needs that prevent them from succeeding in regular school programs.

The Board shall provide staff training necessary to implement the programs and services for pupils at risk.

A. Assessment

1. School district personnel will use a variety of tests and/or assessments to determine if a pupil should be categorized as at risk of not meeting the proficiencies of the New Jersey Core Curriculum content Standards.
2. All parents/guardians shall be notified in writing of a pupil's need for a remedial/skill maintenance program and shall be encouraged to participate in its design.
3. Regulations governing these programs and procedures shall be reviewed and adopted by the board as required by law.

4. The chief school administrator shall evaluate the remedial education programs each school year and report to the board of education as to their effectiveness in achieving and maintaining acceptable levels of pupil proficiency.

B. Basic Skills Improvement Program

The Basic Skills Improvement Program to be prepared and recommended to the Board will provide for:

1. The enrollment in preventive and remedial programs shall be required for pupils at risk who do not meet New jersey Curriculum Content Standards Assessments;
2. The screening of pupils, within one month of enrollment, to determine whether they should be enrolled in preventive and remedial programs;
3. Supplemental instructional and related activities and services responsive to identified deficiencies and designed to meet the academic, social, economic, and environmental needs of pupils;
4. Evaluation of the progress of pupils toward proficiency in meeting the New jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards;
5. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the district at risk program, in terms of pupil gains and other relevant factors;
6. A detailed budget for the administration, personnel, supplies, equipment, training of staff, and health and community services required for the at risk program;
7. Both the pupil and the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) will be notified of the pupil's need for at risk education. Notification will be made in writing in the language or mode of communication that is understood by the pupil and the parent(s) or legal guardian(s);
8. Continuing communication between teaching staff members and the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of pupils receiving at risk education;
9. These programs shall be supplemental to the regular program and designed to assist students who have academic, social, economic or environmental needs that prevent them from succeeding in regular school programs; and
10. The Board shall provide training for the staff necessary to implement the programs and services for pupils at risk.

Date: Adopted 5/22/07

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: List your appropriate policies. See legal reference sheet for possibilities.

Key Words

Remedial Instruction, Compensatory Instruction, Supplemental Instruction, Remedial Education