HOME-SCHOoled STUDENTS AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

HOME-SCHOoled STUDENTS:

The Board of Education shall ensure that children instructed at home are taught by a competent instructor and receive an education substantially equivalent to that offered in the district's schools.

Parents/Guardians who wish to educate their children at home must submit to the district an individual home instruction plan (IHIP), outlining the educational goals to be met and the course materials and syllabi to be used each year for the child's learning process. The district may accept or deny an IHIP. Parents/Guardians must submit quarterly reports which will provide the district with the necessary information to make determinations of substantial equivalency and competency of instruction on an ongoing basis.

Parents/Guardians may appeal to the Board a determination by the Superintendent of Schools or designee that an IHIP is not in compliance with the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. Parents/Guardians shall have the right to appeal the final determination of the Board to the Commissioner of Education within 30 days of receipt of such determination.

Special Education

A student with an IHIP, who is a resident of the school district and has a disability, or is suspected of having a disability, is eligible to receive services from the school district, in accordance with law, regulation and district policy (4321 et. seq.). A parent/guardian must request special education services in writing to the Board by June 1st, unless the child is first identified or moves into the district after June 1st. In that case, the parent/guardian must request the services within 30 days of being identified or of moving into the district.

Special education services will be provided on an equitable basis compared to programs and services provided to other students with disabilities attending public or nonpublic schools within the district. The Board will determine the location where services will be available to home schooled students.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES:

Participation in Extracurricular Activities by either Home Schooled Students or Students who are residents of the Cambridge School District and attend non-public schools shall be governed as follows.

Students instructed at home by their parents and students who are residents of the School District and enrolled in a non-public school are not entitled to participate in interscholastic, intramural, or extramural sports (or any other activity deemed part of the School’s physical education curriculum). However, the Board may permit such students to participate in other school-sponsored extracurricular activities subject to the conditions of this Policy. Specifically, the Board may permit home-schooled and non-public students who are residents
of the District to participate in such school-sponsored extracurricular activities pursuant to the following conditions:

• participate in non-credit-bearing organized school activities such as clubs and student after school groups (e.g. school plays, etc.); participate in band and/or receive music lessons only if these activities are considered to be extra-curricular (not credit-bearing or graded or required for class);

• use school facilities such as the library, career information center and gymnasium if there is mutual agreement on the part of all involved parties.

• The student must apply to the Superintendent of Schools for such participation and the Superintendent may deny participation if the student’s history of behavior or academic performance does not justify such participation.

• Any student permitted to participate in extracurricular activities pursuant to this Policy is expected to comply with the Code of Conduct for students of the District and failure to do so may result in the privilege of participation being terminated. The student and parent/guardian will be provided a copy of the current Code of Conduct and shall sign acknowledging receipt of the Code of Conduct and their agreement to be bound thereby prior to commencing participation in the activity.

Instructional Materials

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to loan instructional materials, if available, to students receiving home instruction and students attending non-public schools in accordance with applicable law and regulation. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall determine the availability of resources and develop appropriate procedures.

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