

Regulation

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Related Entries: Policy JL

Responsible Office: ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

STUDENT SERVICES

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this regulation is to establish processes for the coordination of student services programs for all students within Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

B. BACKGROUND

Anne Arundel County Public Schools is responsible for the provision of a coordinated program of student services for all students that shall include guidance, pupil personnel, school psychology, social work, school health, safe and drug-free schools.

C. DEFINITIONS

Anne Arundel County Public Schools is responsible for the provision of a coordinated program of student services for all students that includes, but may not be limited to, guidance, pupil personnel, school psychology, social work, school health, safe and drug-free schools.

D. PROCEDURES

GUIDANCE

1. The School Guidance Program is a planned, systematic program of counseling, consulting, appraisal, information, and placement services for students, grades K through 12. The services provided shall help students demonstrate personal and academic growth, make appropriate educational and career decisions, and develop effective interpersonal skills. These services are to include direct counseling, consultation, coordination, appraisal, and evaluation. Guidance counselors shall also provide an instructional program which is delivered through the classroom, interdisciplinary curriculum development, group activities, individual advisement, and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) education.

2. Consistent with the aims of the American School Counselors Association (ASCA), the goal of the school system is that counselors spend 80% of their time providing direct services to students. The remainder is spent in program management and system support.
3. The Guidance and Counseling Program is aligned to the National Standards for School Counseling Programs and the AACPS Bridge to Excellence Master Plan. Each counselor is required to develop a clearly defined guidance plan that includes strategies for systematic implementation and identified indicators for accountability.
4. Guidance counselors are to follow the Guidance Program Calendar for implementation of guidance programs. Resources for implementation are available in school guidance departments as well as through the Office of Guidance and Counseling.

PUPIL PERSONNEL

1. The Office of Pupil Personnel (OPP) shall support student achievement by minimizing the impact of obstacles such as homelessness, attendance/truancy, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and custodial care issues.
2. The pupil personnel worker shall provide staff consultation, including student and parent/legal guardian contact regarding attendance, residency, and custody issues. The program is aligned to the Bridge to Excellence Master Plan to create a safe learning environment that promotes accelerated achievement. Strategies implemented shall improve daily attendance for students pre-kindergarten through grade 12 and provide alternative and educational options for students to assist in completing high school graduation requirements.
3. The State Board of Education requires certification of pupil personnel workers according to Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A.12.03.04.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

1. The Office of Psychological Services, (OPS), is comprised of school psychologists and social workers who work cooperatively with colleagues in the Student Services Division to offer a coordinated program of services to students ages 3 through 21. School psychologists and social workers are to be certified by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). They use their knowledge of child development, learning principles, and mental health to develop and implement prevention and intervention programs for students with a wide range of learning needs. School psychologists and social workers form partnerships among parent(s)/legal guardian(s), educators, and the community based on their

knowledge of family influences that affect students' wellness, learning, and achievement.

2. The Office of Psychological Services is aligned with the standards and ethical practices of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). Programs and services address the AACPS Bridge to Excellence Master Plan and the Goals of AACPS. NASP recommends a ratio of 1 School Psychologist per 1000 students of enrollment.
3. School psychologists and social workers will develop and maintain guidelines for the delivery of services. The measurement of the attainment of these guidelines will incorporate feedback from principals, process data, and student outcome data. The Coordinator of Psychological Services is responsible for the supervision, evaluation, and performance ratings of school psychologists and social workers.

SCHOOL HEALTH

1. The school health program supports student success. School nurses will function as a part of the school's multi-disciplinary team to bridge the gap between health, wellness, and learning. Working with parent(s)/legal guardian(s), other health professionals, and other school staff, the school nurse shall provide services for students that promote optimum health for academic success. Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13A.05.05.05-.15 mandate that health coverage in schools be provided by a school health services professional. This professional is defined as a physician, certified nurse practitioner, or registered nurse with experience or special training, or both in working with children and families in community or school health programs and practices in accordance with the current medical and nursing standards of care. Local school systems, with the assistance of local health departments, are responsible for providing school health services to public schools.
2. School health services are provided through a Memorandum of Understanding renewed annually between the Anne Arundel County Department of Health and Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS (SDFS)

1. The Safe and Drug-Free Schools Project is a multi-faceted entity within Anne Arundel County Public Schools. It originated with federal funding through the U.S. Department of Education Title IV, Part A, Safe & Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act.
2. SDFS shall promote academic achievement and student wellness through substance abuse and violence prevention services. In addition, they shall provide parent/legal guardian support and community resources to address student drug use and school safety issues.

3. SDFS services and programs shall include student, staff, and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) substance abuse and violence prevention education (K-12); on-site drug screening by certified addictions counselors upon request of school personnel or parent(s)/legal guardian(s); and multi-faceted training and presentations on effective parenting, employee wellness, diversity, conflict resolution, and team building.

Regulation History: *Developed by Office of Superintendent 2/7/07*
 Reviewed by Board of Education 5/16/07
 Issued 5/16/07

Note Previous History: *None*