

## **DROPOUTS**

The Board affirms that even though law requires attendance of a student only between the ages of seven through sixteen, it is in the best interests of both students and the community that students complete the educational program that will equip them with required skills and increase their chances for a successful life beyond school.

The Board directs that whenever a student is identified as at-risk of dropping out of school, reasonable efforts shall be made to determine the underlying reason for such risk. District resources and staff shall be utilized to retain the student and/or assist the student in pursuing educational and career goals.

No student of compulsory school age will be permitted to withdraw without the written consent of a parent/guardian and supporting justification.

### **At-Risk Coordinator**

The Board shall designate one at-risk coordinator to collect and disseminate data regarding drop-outs in the District and to coordinate the District's program for students who are at high risk of dropping out of school.

Each school year, the at-risk coordinator will prepare a dropout reduction plan that identifies:

1. The number of District students who dropped out in the preceding regular school term;
2. The number of students in grades 1-12 who are at risk of dropping out;
3. The District's dropout rate goal for the next school year; and
4. The dropout reduction programs, resources, and strategies to be used during the school year,

The Board shall review and approve the plan annually.

### **At-Risk Students**

In determining whether a student is at high risk of dropping out of school, the District will consider the student academic and attendance performance as well as whether the student is adjudged delinquent; abuses drugs or alcohol; is a student of limited English proficiency; receives compensatory or remedial education; is sexually, physically or psychologically abused; is pregnant or a parent; is an emancipated youth; is a previous drop-out, is a court or agency referral; stops attending school before the end of the school year; is an underachiever; is unmotivated; or exhibits other characteristics that indicate the student is at high risk of dropping out of school.

### **Programs and District Plan**

The District shall provide a remedial and support program for any student who is at risk of dropping out of school. The District will have a plan designed to retain students in a school setting. The District plan will be the responsibility of the Superintendent or the designated at-risk coordinator and will:

1. Emphasize a comprehensive team approach that includes the Superintendent, principal, parent/guardian, teacher, student, or others;

2. Include objectives designed to meet the identified needs of at-risk students and to retain those students in school;
3. Be designed to use community resources that are available to serve at-risk youth;
4. Provide for parental involvement, such as participation in developing student academic plans and training programs for parents; and
5. Provide for review of individual profiles for at-risk students

The District plan may also:

1. Include alternatives; and
2. Provide for the referral of students who drop out to other programs.

Alternatives to regular attendance should be used in so far as they are effective and in accordance with state law in an effort to maintain and further the education of students who find it impossible to attend the regular school session.

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Complementing:

- FDG-E, Withdrawal/Dropout Form

**End of Jamestown Public School District Policy FDG..... Adopted:5/2/2022**