

***HOME INSTRUCTION POLICY***

**WHEREAS**, it is acknowledged that the Town of Johnston School Department is entitled by law to ensure that the home instruction program contemplated for the minor child meets the requirements of the laws of Rhode Island regarding at-home instruction;

**WHEREAS**, R.I. Gen. Laws §16-19-2 mandates that the period of attendance of pupils receiving home instruction be substantially equal to that required by law in public schools, attendance shall be kept by the parent responsible for home instruction and will be provided to school officials bi-annually for the first year and yearly thereafter;

**WHEREAS**, R.I. Gen. Laws §16-19-2 requires that reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, the history of the United States, the history of Rhode Island, and the principles of American government shall be taught thoroughly and efficiently in the English language substantially to the same extent as these subjects are required to be taught in the public schools;

**WHEREAS**, R.I. Gen. Laws §16-22-2 requires instruction in the principles of popular and representative government, history and government of Rhode Island (commencing in Grade 4), and Constitutions and government of Rhode Island and the United States (commencing in high school);

**WHEREAS**, a home instruction program is required to teach health and physical education pursuant to the mandated of R.I. Gen. Laws §16-22-4;

**WHEREAS**, it is understood and agreed the Johnston School Department will provide, if requested, assistance in the formulation of an appropriate home school program; this assistance will, upon your request, make available textbooks currently used in the Johnston Public Schools and those appearing on the state approved textbook loan program list;

**WHEREAS**, it is understood and agreed that the Johnston School Department has a statutory duty to offer Special Education programming and related services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; as with all students who attend schools in Johnston or those who attend private schools, it is our responsibility to offer Special Education Services to all eligible students. Such services would depend on student eligibility;

**WHEREAS**, it is understood and agreed that if the parent(s) or guardian(s) responsible for the home instruction requests enrollment/re-enrollment of the minor child into the Johnston Public Schools, the Johnston School Department may require the parent(s) or guardian(s) to submit, prior to the enrollment/re-enrollment, representative samples of scholastic work of the minor child in order to assess whether the home instruction program has been thorough and efficient;

**WHEREAS**, it is understood and agreed the Johnston School Department, if requested, will offer participation in the state testing program provided the Johnston School Department is notified of the request no later than October 1 of each school year; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is understood and agreed the Johnston School Department will provide the minor child with participation in school related activities (*i.e.*, after-school programs and/or sports programs) if requested by the parent(s) or guardian(s) responsible for the home instruction. Registration documentation (*i.e.*, name, telephone number, name of after-school activity) will be required of all participating students and an Emergency Information form will be required in case of an emergency.

## Johnston Public Schools

### **GUIDELINES FOR HOME SCHOOLING**

The following guidelines shall be adhered to in requesting and approving a home instruction program:

1. Prior to the beginning of each school year and no later than August 15<sup>th</sup> of the current school year, the parent(s) or guardian(s) must submit written notification to the Superintendent of Schools of their intent to instruct their child or children at home. This letter will be termed the "Letter of Intent". It shall include for each student as a minimum: the student's name, age, and grade level. Parents who decide to home school their children during the school year should notify the Superintendent in writing immediately upon knowing that they wish to home school.
2. The parent(s) or guardian(s) shall submit to the Superintendent's designee a copy of the completed Curriculum Form. This curriculum must show that all subjects required under the RI General Laws will be covered.
3. The Superintendent, upon recommendation of the designee, will submit the request to the Johnston School Committee for approval.
4. The parent(s) or guardian(s) may begin home based instruction immediately after submittal of the Letter of Intent to home school. The parent(s) or guardian(s) will receive a letter of acceptance or denial for their home instruction, immediately following a School Committee decision. If the reason for denial is unsatisfactory, appeal may be made to the State Education Commission.
5. The parent(s) or guardian(s) shall provide learning time during the year that is substantially equal to that required by law for public school students. In addition to classroom time, learning may include direct study, independent study, technology assisted learning, work-study programs, or presentations by persons other than their normal instructor.
6. The parent(s) or guardian(s) shall submit attendance records during the period of home instruction. A standard attendance registry log book will be provided by the school department to assist in keeping this information. The normal report need only be a summation of the total days of learning time during the reporting period.

**JOHNSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
10 MEMORIAL AVENUE  
JOHNSTON, RI 02919-3222

**\*FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO PURSUE A PROGRAM OF HOME-INSTRUCTION**

ACADEMIC YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Please complete this form, attach any additional information and forward it to the OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT at the above address **no later than August 15<sup>th</sup>** of the school year in which the child is to be home schooled. If this process is initiated during the school year, the student should remain in school until the school district and the parents agree jointly to the home schooling plan.

A. Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

B. On a separate sheet, describe the instructional program to be taught, including subjects and instructional aids to be used for each subject to be taught.

Include any special talents, qualifications, or experiences of those who will be instructing the child(ren), as they relate to the instructional program described above.

C. Provide, as a method of assessment, the following materials: daily logs, journals, progress reports, portfolios, and/or dated work samples. Include dates of tests and final exams.

The following signature confirms the intent to provide a minimum of 180 days of instruction.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date submitted

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date submitted

**HOME BASED INSTRUCTION**  
**CURRICULUM FORM**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Petition \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Curriculum:** *(Include all subjects required under the RI General Law)*

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>TEXT/MATERIALS INTENDED TO BE USED (Title, Publisher, Copyright Date)</b>

Evaluation of students (bi-annually for first year and yearly thereafter) to be used (check ALL that may apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ Written Evaluation

\_\_\_\_\_ Dated Work Samples

\_\_\_\_\_ Report Card

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_