

SECTION L

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**Note: Administrative Guidelines are not School Committee Policy.
Guidelines are developed as a result of School Committee Policy.
Such Guidelines are denoted (-P).**

EDUCATION AGENCY RELATIONS GOALS

The School Committee appreciates the place and importance of an educational system in its greater environment, which includes other organizations and institutions dedicated to education. It believes that much is gained through cooperative endeavors with other agencies.

In order to make a maximum contribution to education, within the school system and to other educational agencies, the Committee establishes these broad goals:

1. To encourage liaison with other educational agencies.
2. To supply educational services to and/or share with other educational agencies.

Adopted by the Reading School Committee on March 26, 2007

RELATIONS WITH OTHER SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The School Committee will cooperate with other schools and with local, state, and regional agencies and organizations to:

1. Seek solutions of educational problems of common concern.
2. Offer support services of high quality to our children.
3. Equalize educational opportunities for all children.
4. Acquire federal and state grants.
5. Promote local school system involvement in state and federal decision-making.

This cooperation may extend to research, providing transportation for children to special schools and hospitals, coordination of curriculum, exchange of information and data, construction of facilities that may be efficiently used on a cooperative basis, and the coordination of school calendars and activities.

Before joining any cooperative programs, education collaborative, or participating in any joint educational services with other school systems, the School Committee wants to be sure that in all instances the best interests of our school children will be served. In carrying out this policy the Superintendent will include in reports to the Committee an evaluation of the desirability and feasibility of cooperation with other schools and agencies on matters of mutual interest.

Adopted by the Reading School Committee on March 26, 2007

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 40:4E; 71:48; 71:71D; 71B:4; 74:4 through 74:7A; 76:1

RELATIONS WITH NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS

Private Schools

In accordance with Massachusetts G.L. c. 76, § 1,

For the purposes of this section, school committees shall approve a private school when satisfied that the instruction in all the studies required by law equals in thoroughness and efficiency, and in the progress made therein, that in the public schools in the same town; but shall not withhold such approval on account of religious teaching

Such approval by the School Committee is valid until substantial changes are made in the private school's program. Such substantial change would include, but are not limited to, adding grade levels, or significant reduction or expansion in student enrollment. It is the responsibility of the private school to notify the School Committee of such changes.

The School Committee may seek the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in the process of fulfilling its responsibility under the statute.

This approval shall be construed solely as the School Committee's fulfillment of its responsibility under the above mentioned statute and is not in any way an evaluation of program quality or an endorsement of any particular school. Furthermore, by its actions, the School Committee assumes no liability(s) beyond that imposed by the above mentioned statute.

The Committee recognizes that many worthwhile contributions are made to this community by parochial and other private schools. Therefore, it will cooperate with these schools in matters of mutual benefit when law does not expressly prohibit this cooperation.

Adopted by the Reading School Committee on March 26, 2007.
Revised by the Reading School Committee on November 5, 2007

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 40:4E; 71:48; 71:71D; 71B:4; 74:4 through 74:7A; 76:1;
October 3, 2007 Massachusetts Department of Education Advisory
on Approval of Massachusetts Private Schools Pursuant to Mass.
Gen. Laws c. 76, § 1

STUDENT TEACHING AND INTERNSHIPS

The Committee encourages the administration to cooperate with teacher-training institutions in the placement of student teachers in the school system. All initial arrangements with the colleges and universities will be subject to Committee approval.

The Committee authorizes the administration to honor the reasonable rules and training guidelines of the sending institution.

In all arrangements made with colleges and universities, the school system will be given the privilege of interviewing and accepting or rejecting individual candidates for student teaching and internships.

The school administration will devise procedures for evaluating the performance of student teachers that meet requirements of the sending institution and fit with the Committee's policies.

Adopted by the Reading School Committee on March 26, 2007