

EUT POLICY ON STUDENT REINTEGRATION FROM A JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Maine law requires the establishment of a reintegration team to assist a student entering a public school from a juvenile correctional facility. The Division of State Schools – EUT recognizes the need for advance planning and appropriate confidentiality in these circumstances.

The Division will comply with reintegration standards established by the Maine Department of Education. The Director will be responsible for overseeing the transition of students from juvenile correctional facilities based on the following guidelines:

- A. Within ten days of receiving information from the Department of Corrections concerning the release of the juvenile offender, the Director shall establish and convene a meeting of a reintegration team to review information received from the Department of Corrections, evaluate the student's individual education needs, and determine what additional information may be relevant.
- B. The reintegration team shall include at a minimum the principal/designee of the school to which the student will be admitted, at least one classroom teacher to which the student will be assigned (whenever possible), the student's parent/guardian/custodian, and a guidance counselor. The student's juvenile correctional officer or other representative from the Department of Corrections may be invited to attend.
- C. The reintegration team will determine, on the basis of need, which school employees should be given information that would otherwise be considered confidential. The nature and extent of information provided should be limited to that need to implement the student's reintegration plan and ensure the health and safety of the student, the safety of the school's students and staff, and the integrity of school property.
- D. The Director or a designee will be responsible for ensuring that confidentiality training, including a review of the school unit's policy and administrative procedures pertinent to records from the juvenile criminal justice system, including the juvenile correctional facility, and to all student educational records under the Family Education Records and Privacy Act (FERPA), is provided to all school employees who have access to this information.
- E. Before the student enters school, at least one additional meeting of the reintegration team should be held to develop an individualized plan for the student's reintegration based on the student's educational needs and the options available within the school system. This meeting should include the student as well as the members of the reintegration team. The reintegration plan will address the student's educational program, participation in activities (including co-curricular and extracurricular activities), and access to school facilities (including transportation).
- F. Placement in grade, class, and/or school programs will be based on the student's abilities and academic achievement demonstrated in prior educational settings, including the student's stay at the juvenile correctional facility. The principal will be responsible for evaluating the student's transcript and portfolio from the juvenile correctional facility to assess progress toward meeting the content standards of the Learning Results.

- G. The Director/designee will be responsible for developing and implementing a process for monitoring and reporting a student's progress and compliance with the reintegration plan and for modifying the plan as needed.
- H. A student who violates a policy or school rule will be subject to the disciplinary consequences described in policy, administrative procedures, and/or the student handbook/student code of conduct.
- I. The Director/designee shall make any reports that may be required by the Department of Education concerning numbers of students entering the local school unit from juvenile correctional facilities.

When a juvenile offense involves the use or threatened use of physical force against a person the District Attorney in the district where the charges were brought will provide certain information to the Director (or designee) of the juvenile's school.

This information is limited to:

1. The name of the juvenile;
2. The nature of the alleged offense or offense;
3. The date of the alleged offense or offense
4. The date of the petition (date charged);
5. The date of the adjudication, if applicable; and
6. The location of the court where the case was brought, if applicable.

By law, this information is **not** to become part of the student's educational record.

Legal Reference: 20-A M.R.S.A §§254 (12), 1055 (12), 2902 (10), 4502 (5)(O)
6001-B (1), 6001-B (2), 6001-B (3-A)
15 M.R.S.A. § 3009

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