606.5 Educating Students at Home

Policy

The District shall provide for the supervision of resident students who are educated at home.

Definitions

Home Education: the educating of the child in the home environment that meets all the requirements imposed by the Government of Alberta, including the Program of Studies, and is provided by the parent/guardian who is responsible for delivering the courses in the program. The student’s progress is verified by a Home Education Facilitator. Courses may be completed through Print-based Distance Education Programs and/or Online Learning Programs.

Homeschooling: the educating of the child in the home environment that does not follow the Alberta Education Program of Studies. The parents/guardians determine the learning activities, select instructional methods, and evaluate the student’s progress. The program must address the learning outcomes for students as outlined in the Home Education Regulation. The student’s progress is verified by a Home Education Facilitator. Courses may be completed through Print-based Distance Education Programs and/or Online Learning Programs.

Blended Program: the parents/guardians and the District share responsibility for educating the child. Parents/guardians and the District work together to determine which subjects and/or activities the student will attend at school and which will be completed at home. The student’s progress is verified by a Home Education Facilitator.

Home Education Facilitator: the professional teacher assigned by the District to assist and verify the progress of a student being educated in the home.

Regulations

1. The terms and conditions for the learning program of a student educated at home shall be set out in a written agreement between the parent/guardian and the District.
2. Programs for students educated at home shall comply with the Province of Alberta Home Education Regulations and the Guide to Education.
3. Parents/guardians may choose to provide education for their children at home at
any time:

3.1. Where a student is already registered with the Board, and the parent/guardian chooses home education, home schooling, or blended education after September 30th, the Board will ensure that the student has access to an education program in accordance with the School Act and funding regulations.

3.2. Where a resident student is enrolled with another board or accredited private school as of September 30, and the parent/guardian wishes to commence a home education, home schooling, or blended program, approval must be granted by the Superintendent, or designate.

4. The District encourages the use of blended programming to help the student stay connected with the school environment.

5. A Home Education Facilitator shall monitor students being educated at home on a regular basis.

6. All students who are educated at home shall be registered in a District school.

7. Students shall write any provincially mandated exams as required unless excused in accordance with Alberta Education policy and Home Education Regulation.

8. A Home Education or Blended Program shall be terminated and the student directed to enroll in a District school if the student fails to meet an acceptable level of achievement, or the program ceases to meet the requirements of the Home Education Regulation.

8.1. The decision to terminate shall be preceded by a review of the program and the student’s achievement, in consultation with the parent/guardian.

8.2. The parent/guardian shall be provided with written notice of the termination.

8.3. The parent/guardian may appeal a termination decision according to District Policy.

9. A Home Schooling Program agreement shall be terminated if the program fails to meet the requirements as outlined in the Home Education Regulation. Parents/guardians shall be informed that the student must enroll in a District school or partner with another school district.

10. A parent/guardian may terminate educating their student at home at any time by providing written notice and enrolling the student in school.

References

Alberta School Act: Sections 29, 39, 45, 123, 124, 125
Alberta Education Documents:
Home Education Handbook 2010
Home Education Regulations 145/2006