

ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
ABINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

BOARD POLICY STATEMENT

REGARDING: **Tutoring Students**

Section: **Students**

Approved: October 16, 2019

Supersedes/Amends Policy

See Also:

Related SAP; 22 Pa. Code
Section 235

Dated: 8/26/08, 5/9/17

The Abington School District is committed to providing the instructional resources and materials required by law to meet the needs of its students. In addition to differentiated instruction provided by a student's teacher during the school day to meet the student's needs, the District offers a variety of intervention and instructional support to further the education of its students.

The District recognizes that at times, some parents/guardians may wish to obtain private tutoring services for their child to supplement their instruction at school. While the District does not endorse any particular commercial tutors, recommend fees, or make guarantees that tutoring will produce a passing grade or other educational results, in order to allow District students access to the many qualified private tutors who are also District employees, while minimizing the potential for conflict of interest created by teachers and other instructional staff tutoring their own students, the District permits tutoring of District students by District staff pursuant to the guidelines below, those contained in the accompanying Superintendent's Administrative Procedure, and in accordance with Pennsylvania's *Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators*, which provides in part: "The professional educator may not ... exploit a professional relationship for personal gain or advantage."

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

Teachers and other instructional staff includes classroom teachers, teachers of special area subjects (e.g. music, art, physical education), counselors, psychologists, aides, special education teachers, teachers co-teaching with a classroom teacher, and related services providers, including but not limited to, speech therapists, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

Tutoring means providing additional, special, or remedial instruction to a student in the employee's area of certification.

Current student means a student on the teacher's and other instructional staff's class list or case load or who is otherwise specifically assigned to the teacher and other instructional staff regardless of the time of year.

Guidelines

Tutoring Current Students for a Fee Prohibited

All District students are entitled to reasonable assistance from their teachers without additional cost. Allowing any teacher to charge a fee to their current students for tutoring creates an appearance that the student will have an unfair academic advantage. Therefore, teachers shall refrain from tutoring their current students for a fee either individually or in groups. Teachers may not initiate any type of private business or "tutoring for a fee" relationship with their current students, or those students' parents/guardians, regardless of when the tutoring may occur. For example, a teacher cannot solicit prospective business from a current student, even if the tutoring may occur when the student is no longer in his or her class, such as during the upcoming summer break.

Other Restrictions on Tutoring

No tutoring or private lessons for which a teacher or other instructional staff receives a fee may be carried out on District property.

Teachers and other instructional staff may not use District resources (i.e. assigned computer, classroom materials, assessments, etc.) in connection with private tutoring.

No solicitation for tutoring for a fee services may occur on District property or through any District means of communication, including the District's email system.