

8601 STUDENT SUPERVISION AFTER SCHOOL DISMISSAL

The Board of Education adopts this Student Supervision After School Dismissal Policy as a result of the New Jersey Supreme Court's decision in *Joseph Jerkins, an infant by his Guardian Ad Litem, Charles Jerkins; Charles Jerkins and Toni Jerkins, individually, v. Soweto Anderson; Kemba N. Anderson; John Does 1-10 (fictitious individuals) and ABC Corporations 1-10 (fictitious entities), and Board of Education of Pleasantville Public Schools and Rosemay Clarke.*

The New Jersey Supreme Court, in *Jerkins*, indicated dangers exist for younger students at dismissal as children are susceptible to numerous risks, including negligent conduct, when leaving school property. Because of these risks, the Board of Education adopts and requires the implementation of Policy 8601 for the supervision of younger students after dismissal. The supervision provisions of Policy Guide 8601 are applicable to parents or legal guardians of students attending district-operated schools or programs in grades Pre-Kindergarten to four who are not eligible for district-provided transportation after dismissal or are eligible and elect not to use district-provided transportation after dismissal.

Any parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a student attending a district-operated school or program in grades Pre-Kindergarten to four, where the student is not eligible for district-provided transportation or is eligible and elects not to use district-provided transportation after dismissal may request the school or program not release the student to walk home after dismissal unless the student is released to the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or escort(s) designated by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s). The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) designated escort(s) must be at least eighteen years old. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may designate up to three escorts. The parent or legal guardian must submit a completed After School Dismissal form to the Principal or designee, or program administrator. The Form is available in the Main office of the G. Harold Antrim School, or online at the Point Pleasant Beach School District website. Students in grades three and four maybe released on his/her own at dismissal as long as the parent authorizes the release on the After School Dismissal form.

In order for the school administration to effectively implement the requirements of this Policy and to ensure the safety and security of pupils that will be released to a parent, legal guardian or designated escort, the parental request shall be applicable for every school day and shall apply for a duration period of the entire school year. The Request Form must be re-submitted at the end of the duration period. In addition, a parent or legal guardian may change the form by submitting a written request to the Principal indicating the date on which the parent or legal guardian wishes the change to take effect. The child will be dismissed in accordance with typical dismissal protocol effective the date indicated in the written request.



The Principal or designee, or program administrator upon receiving the After School Dismissal form, shall notify the appropriate school staff member who has supervision of the pupil at dismissal time at the end of the school day of the parent's or legal guardian's request.

Each Principal or program administrator will develop and implement a written Pupil Supervision After School Dismissal Plan for their school building or program location. This Plan shall include the school building's or program's supervision procedures for pupils at the end of the school day to the designated area in the school building or program and the location of the designated area in the school building or program. The Plan shall be based on the school's or program's ability to provide supervision, the accessibility for the parent or legal guardian or designated escort to pick-up the child without disrupting dismissal of the remaining school population, and other considerations unique to the school building or program location. The school's or program's Pupil Supervision After School Dismissal Plan shall be provided to all parents or legal guardians in grades Pre-Kindergarten through four.

In the event the parent or legal guardian or designated escort does not arrive to pick up the child after the dismissal time of school, the Principal or designee will attempt to contact the parent or legal guardian using the district's emergency call procedures.

The pupil shall be supervised by school staff in the designated area of the building and will only be released only when the parent or legal guardian or designated escort arrives to pick up the pupil.

In order to ensure the safety of other pupils being dismissed from school in accordance with typical school dismissal protocol, to limit interaction of parents or legal guardians or designated escorts with other pupils within the building, and to avoid traffic and vehicular safety problems outside the school building, the Principal or program administrator may prohibit the parents or legal guardians or designated escort from entering the school building until a time period after school has dismissed and/or vehicular traffic has cleared the school site. This determination shall be made by each Principal or program administrator after considering the unique circumstances at the school building and the building's typical dismissal protocol.

In the event of an emergency such that, when an unforeseen event prevents a parent or legal guardian or designated escort from arriving for a child at dismissal within the time period designated by the Principal or program administrator, the pupil will be relocated to the Main Office in the school building and will remain in the Main Office supervised by the Main Office staff until the parent or legal guardian or designated escort arrives.



POLICY

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In the event of an emergency or extenuating circumstance the parent/legal guardian can request the administration release the child to an alternate designated escort via direct communication with the Building Principal or his/her designee. The administration in those cases will have full authority to release the child to the alternate designated escort on the given day(s).

The school will provide parents or legal guardians information regarding any supervised after-school services, if any, that may be available to pupils at the school's facilities after formal school dismissal.

This Policy shall be published on the School District's web site and referenced in the pupil/school handbooks. In addition, the school district shall provide to parents or legal guardians in the beginning of the school year, the school's calendar to include the starting and dismissal times for full session, half-session, and early dismissal days due to weather or other emergencies. Parents or legal guardians shall be required to return to the school a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the pupil/school handbook, which shall include reference to this policy and the school calendar. In addition, any changes to the school's calendar made during the school year shall also be provided to parents and to the legal guardians.

Adopted: 16 April 2016

