

SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Policy

Article: 5000 Students

Title: Pullout Programs and Activities

Policy #: 5133

Rationale: There are many reasons why students are “pulled out” of their regular classes. Such reasons range from weak to strong. Some kinds of inconvenience are intrinsic in all pullouts.

By official action and/or circumstance, some programs are special and some students are exceptional. Thereby, pullouts are justified. The following policy items are approved to serve the interests of students and teachers.

1. Two kinds of pullouts are defined:
 - a. Formal: For approved, authorized, and/or scheduled programs and activities.
 - b. Informal: For interests, initiatives and unscheduled activities that are mutually acceptable to all parties. The entire responsibility for informal pullouts lies with the students and teachers involved. If anyone becomes distressed, then the pullout should be cancelled by whoever started it.
2. Formal pullouts allow no choice for students and teachers, however, mutually agreeable exceptions can be made for good reasons even under a no-choice policy.
3. All pullouts require the teacher to make reasonable accommodations for learning activities and testing. Prearrangements, substitutions, and waivers should be considered. Gifted students should not be required to make up work missed as a result of their involvement in the gifted program unless that work is of critical importance.
4. All pullouts prohibit any reduction in report card grades except and to the extent that students fail to take advantage of reasonable accommodations by teacher.
5. All students must continue to meet the general requirements of their regular classes, on a weekly basis, to be eligible for pullouts. Otherwise, the pullout should be suspended or terminated by whoever is responsible for the program or activity in the first place.
6. No distress should be allowed to build up for any student or teacher. Relief from problems arising from this policy may be sought on an emergency basis at any time. Otherwise, there shall be an annual cycle for revision.
7. Special programs such as Title I and Special Education may have requirements that will supersede this policy.

ADDENDUM

Document: Revised Policy for Pullout Programs and Activities

Reference: Item #3.

Definitions:

“Critical importance” - that work which is considered as an integral part of instruction.

“integral part of instruction” - that which is sequential and prerequisite so as to impair future learning if not completed.

*Procedure: Regular classroom teachers will routinely determine that work which is of “critical importance”. When a complaint is not resolved by the regular teacher, then it will be appealed to the principal plus a note to the supervisor. When a complaint is not resolved by the principal, he or she will call the supervisor. If they do not resolve the complaint, they will appeal to the superintendent.

*This procedure is generally applicable to the entire policy, with the addition that it is appropriate to consult with the gifted program teacher when the complaint involves that teacher.