This is a proposed revision to current policy. Proposed language is indicated by underscoring. Language to be removed is indicated by strikethroughs. Original formatting has been omitted.

1425

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS
Braxton County Board of Education

I. Purpose

The Braxton County Board of Education ("Board") establishes this policy to govern admissions into Braxton County Schools.

Student transfers are governed by Braxton County Board of Education Policy 4114 Nonresident and Resident Student Transfers.

II. Compulsory School Attendance

~~WV Code 18-8-1 states that Beginning with the 2011-2012 high school freshman cohort class of students, and notwithstanding the provisions of section one of this article~~, Compulsory school attendance begins with the school year in which the sixth birthday is reached prior to ~~September 1~~ July 1 of such year or upon enrolling in a ~~publicly supported~~ kindergarten program and continues to the seventeenth birthday or for as long as the student continues to be enrolled in a school system after the seventeenth birthday.

~~Braxton County Schools~~ The Board shall provide preschool programs in addition to regular kindergarten. A student whose birthday falls ~~on or after September and prior to November 1~~ prior to July 1 will be placed in the program that best meets his or her needs.

Attendance in a public-school kindergarten program or at a state-approved, nonpublic kindergarten program, including a Montessori kindergarten program, homeschool kindergarten program, Hope Scholarship kindergarten program, or private, parochial, or church kindergarten program recognized or provided for by West Virginia State Code is deemed school admittance for this policy. Students entering the public school system after such kindergarten program shall be placed in the developmentally and academically appropriate grade level.

All public schools within this school district shall be free to ~~all~~ enrolled students between the ages of ~~six 6)~~ five (5) and twenty-one (21) years. Those beyond twenty-one years of age may be admitted to school upon the Superintendent's recommendation, subject to Board approval. This privilege may be revoked at any time the Board shall deem to take such action. ~~All such persons that are interested and can benefit, shall be admitted without tuition charges being levied, in keeping with the spirit of free public education.~~

III. Accelerated Placement

~~Students will be advanced placed only on the basis of teacher/principal assessment and space availability in the classroom. No accelerated placement of children will occur, unless they can achieve the critical skills outlined in West Virginia State Policy 2512.~~

Advanced placement may be approved on the basis of assessments, recommendations from teachers or school administrators, and space availability in the classroom.

Accelerated placement into kindergarten is governed by Braxton County Board of Education Policy 4111 Early Admittance to Kindergarten.

~~**Entry Into First Grade**~~

~~Children entering first grade must have successfully completed a state-approved public, private or Montessori kindergarten program. An entrance test of basic readiness skills will be administered to students in lieu of kindergarten attendance only under extraordinary circumstances. Extraordinary circumstances shall be:~~

~~The child shall be six years old prior to September 1 of the school year and has just moved from a state that does not require kindergarten.~~

~~The child will be six years old prior to September 1 of the school year and has not attended kindergarten due to an exemption identified in the Compulsory School Attendance Law (18-8-1).~~

~~Students who qualify under extraordinary circumstances will be placed in kindergarten until testing is complete. Any test may be used that yields data regarding the students intellectual, emotional and physical development.~~

~~The school principal, and elementary teacher and the director of early childhood education will review the results and make a decision regarding placement in first grade based on the students' predicted ability to succeed in first grade.~~

IV. Birth Records

No pupil shall be admitted for the first time to any public school in this state unless the person enrolling the pupil furnishes a certified copy of the pupil's birth record confirming the pupil's identity and age. If a certified copy of the pupil's birth record cannot be obtained, the person so enrolling the pupil shall submit an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a certified copy of the birth record: Provided, That if any person submitting such affidavit is in the U.S. military service and is in transit due to military orders, a three week extension shall be granted to such person for providing the birth records.

Upon the failure of any person enrolling a pupil to furnish a certified copy of the pupil's birth record in conformance with ~~subsection (1) above~~ this policy, the ~~principal~~ administrator of the ~~preschool~~ school in which the pupil is being enrolled or his designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency. The notice to the local law enforcement agency shall include copies of the submitted proof of the pupil's identity and age and the affidavit explaining the inability to produce a certified copy of the birth record.

Within fourteen (14) days after enrolling a transferred pupil, the ~~principal~~ administrator of the school in which the pupil has been enrolled or his designee shall request that the ~~principal~~

administrator or his designee of the school in which the pupil was previously enrolled transfer a certified copy of the pupil's birth record.

~~Principal~~ Administrators and their designees shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability in connection with any notice to a local law-enforcement agency of a pupil lacking a birth certificate or failure to give such notice as required by this section.

V. Immunizations

A. Confirmation of Required Immunizations

The ~~Braxton County~~ Board ~~of Education~~ shall ~~have health officials document~~ verify and document the immunization of children ~~against diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus, and whooping cough as outlined in 16-3-4~~ as outlined in West Virgina State Code and West Virginia Board of Education ("WVBE") policy and directives.

B. Compulsory Immunization of School Children~~; Offenses; Penalties~~

All children entering school for the first time in this State shall have been immunized ~~against diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough~~ as outlined in West Virgina State Code and West Virginia Board of Education Policy and directives. ~~Any person who cannot give satisfactory proof of having been immunized previously or a certificate from a reputable physician showing that an immunization for any or all diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough is impossible or improper or sufficient reason why any or all immunizations should not be done, shall be immunized for diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough prior to being admitted in any of the schools of the State.~~

No ~~child or person~~ student shall be admitted or received in any ~~of the schools of the State~~ Braxton County School until he or she has been immunized as ~~hereinafter provided~~ required or produces a certificate from ~~a reputable physician showing that an immunization for diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough has been done or is impossible or improper or other sufficient reason why such immunizations have not been done~~ the State Immunization Officer granting the student an exemption from the compulsory immunization requirement.

Current students and new students shall not enter grades seven (7) and twelve (12) until he or she has been immunized as required or produces proof of required immunizations or produce a certificate from the State Immunization Officer granting the student an exemption to the compulsory immunization requirement.

Students may be provisionally enrolled as provided for by West Virginia Department of Health or WVBE so that the students' immunization may be completed while missing a minimum amount of school. No student shall be allowed to enter school without at least one dose of each required vaccine.

Any ~~teacher~~ school personnel, having information concerning any person who attempts to ~~enter school for the first time without having been immunized against diphtheria, polio, rubeola,~~

~~rubella, tetanus and whooping cough~~ to be enrolled in a Braxton County School without obtaining the required immunizations or an exemption certificate issued by the State Immunization Officer shall report the names of all such persons to the county health officer. ~~It shall be the duty of the health officer in counties having a full-time health officer to see that such persons are immunized before entering school.~~

~~In counties where there is no full-time health officer or district health officer, the county court or municipal council shall appoint competent physicians to do the immunizations and fix their compensation. The expense incurred in carrying into effect the provisions of this section shall be deemed part of the expense of the county, city, town or village as the case may be, and shall be charged and paid in the same manner as other expenses. County health departments shall furnish the biologicals for this immunization free of charge.~~

~~Health officers and physicians who shall do this immunization work shall give to all persons and children a certificate free of charge showing that they have been immunized against diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough, or he/she may give the certificate to any person or child whom he/she knows to have been immunized against diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough. If any physician shall give any person a false certificate of immunization against diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough, he/she shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, he/she shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars.~~

~~Any parent or guardian who refuses to permit his or her child to be immunized against diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough, who cannot give satisfactory proof that the child or person has been immunized against diphtheria, polio, rubeola, rubella, tetanus and whooping cough previously or a certificate from a reputable physician showing that an immunization for any or all is impossible or improper or sufficient reason why any or all immunizations should not be done, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, except as herein otherwise provided, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars for each offense.~~

~~If a child is excluded from school, that absence, while excluded from school, is an unexcused absence. According to West Virginia law, a parent may be fined up to one hundred dollars per day and/or placed in jail up to twenty days for each day a child has an unexcused absence.~~

~~Compulsory Testing for Tuberculosis of School Children and School Personnel; Commissioner to Approve the Test; X-rays Required for Reactors; Suspension from School or Employment for Pupils and Personnel Found to Have Tuberculosis~~

~~All students entering 7th and 12th grade will to be required to be vaccinated prior to entering school. The required vaccines include the Tdap and meningococcal vaccines. All students entering 7th grade must have one dose of the Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) and one dose of the Meningococcal vaccine.~~

~~Students entering the 12th grade must have at least one dose of the Tdap Vaccine and a second dose of the Meningococcal vaccine. If the first dose of the Meningococcal vaccine was received after age 16, then only one dose of the vaccine is required.~~

~~All students must have both the Tdap and meningococcal vaccine prior to the first day of school. Students without proof of appropriate vaccines will not be permitted to attend the first day of school.~~

~~Frequently Asked Questions / Answers regarding these requirements may be found online at www.immunization.wv.gov.~~

VI. Compulsory Testing for Tuberculosis of School Children and School Personnel

~~All students transferring from a school located outside this state or enrolling for the first time from outside the state shall furnish a certification from a licensed physician stating that a tuberculin skin test, approved by the Commissioner, has been made within four months prior to the beginning of the school year. If the student cannot produce certification from a physician as required by this section then the student shall have an approved tuberculin skin test done with the result read and evaluated prior to admittance to school.~~

~~Test results must be recorded on the certification required by subsection (a) of this section. Positive reactors to the skin test must be immediately evaluated by a physician and, if medically indicated, X-rayed, and receive periodic X-rays thereafter, when medically indicated. Pupils found to have tuberculosis shall be temporarily removed from school while their case is reviewed and evaluated by their physician and the local health officer. Pupils shall return to school when the local health officer indicates that it is safe and appropriate for them to return.~~

~~Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, all school personnel shall have one approved tuberculin skin test at the time of employment performed by the local health department or the person's physician. Additional tuberculosis skin tests or other medical screens may be required by the local health department or Commissioner, if medically indicated. Positive reactors and those with previous positive skin tests are to be immediately referred to a physician for evaluation and treatment or further studies. School personnel found to have tuberculosis shall have their employment suspended until the local health officer, in consultation with the Commissioner, approves a return to work. School personnel who have not had the required examination will be suspended from employment until reports of examination are confirmed by the local health officer.~~

~~The local health officer shall be responsible for arranging proper follow-up of school personnel and students who are unable to obtain physician evaluation for a positive tuberculin skin test.~~

~~The Commissioner shall have the authority to require selective testing of students and school personnel for tuberculosis when there is reason to believe that they may have been exposed to the tuberculosis organism. School nurses shall identify and refer any students or school personnel to the local health officer in instances where they have reason to suspect that the individual has been exposed to tuberculosis or has symptoms indicative of the disease.~~

Students found or suspected to have active tuberculosis shall be temporarily removed from school while their case is reviewed and evaluated by their personal physician and the local health officer. Pupils shall return to school when their personal physician and the local health officer, in consultation with the commissioner, indicate that it is safe and appropriate for them to return.

School personnel found or suspected of having active tuberculosis shall have their employment suspended until the local health officer, in consultation with the commissioner, approves a return to work.

Public health officials may require selective testing of students and school personnel for tuberculosis when there is reason to believe that they may have been exposed to the tuberculosis organism or they have signs and symptoms indicative of the disease.

The school nurses shall identify and refer any students or school personnel to the local health department in instances where they have reason to suspect that the individual has been exposed to tuberculosis or has symptoms indicative of the disease.

VII. Language, Speech, Vision, and Hearing Testing

All children entering school for the first time in this state shall be given a screening test to determine if they might have a language, speech, vision, or hearing impairment. The ~~Braxton County~~ Board ~~of Education~~ shall conduct all such screening tests through the use of trained personnel. Parents or guardians of children who are found to have a language, speech, vision, or possible hearing impairment shall be notified of the results of such screening tests and advised that further diagnosis and treatment of such impairment by qualified professional personnel is recommended.

VIII. Exceptions to Compulsory Attendance

~~Exemption from the requirements of compulsory public school attendance shall be made on behalf of any child from the following causes or conditions, each such cause or condition being subject to confirmation by the attendance authority of the county as outlined in WV Code 18-8-1.~~

Students may be exempt from compulsory attendance in accordance with West Virginia State Code.

~~ATTENDANCE DISTRICTS/EXCEPTIONS (Please refer to policy 1003)~~

IX. Legal

W. Va. Code §16.3-4
W. Va. Code §16-3D-3
W. Va. Code §18-8-1
W. Va. Code §18-8-1a
W. Va. Code §18-2-5c

Board Action: 8.30.1983; 1.24.1994; 2.1.1999.; 5.12.2014; _____