



Framingham

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Committee

FRAMINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY SUMMARY FOR THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE March 29, 2023

All policy changes below are on the agenda for a first reading and were policies that were discussed and approved in the Policy Subcommittee of March 22, 2023. You can watch the video of the Policy Subcommittee meeting [here](#). Changes in the full policies can be found in this packet

Policy	Background/Overview of Changes
ECB: Building and Grounds Maintenance	This policy was referred by the full School Committee on March 1st and has been edited to include specific policy language related to life-systems maintenance during school hours while students are present and to codify in policy that alarm system maintenance will not be engaged during school hours
JICA: Student Dress Code	Edited to align more with the Code of Character, Conduct, and Support and include references. This was also reviewed and approved by the Health and Wellness Subcommittee.
JB: Equal Education Opportunities	Edits to wording
New Policy JBB: Educational Equity	New policy recommended to adopt with some edits
To be Removed: JCAA: Racial Balance Policy: Assignment of Students to Schools	Recommendation to remove this policy as it is very outdated
JF: School Admissions	Edits made to remove “as will certain children who do not reside in the City but who are admitted under School Committee policies relating to nonresident students or by specific action of the School Committee” and a referenced policy that is no longer current

File: ECB - BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

The School Committee, through the Superintendent of Schools and/or their designee, will develop and execute a continuing program of maintenance of all buildings and grounds that the school department is responsible for. This program of maintenance will be administered in such a manner as to preserve the capital investment of the district and to prevent deterioration due to lack of proper care.

The Superintendent will carry out the above policy by providing for:

1. Buildings and ground improvements and additions as established by capital outlay line items approved by the School Committee.
2. An adequate custodial program for all schools.
3. Improvement and maintenance of school grounds and fields.
4. Routine maintenance, including painting and repair of equipment.
5. Determination and replacement of obsolete equipment.

No authorization will be given for any maintenance of any school-based emergency systems to take place while students are present and school is in session. As such, the District will not engage in any alarm systems maintenance to take place during school hours while students are present.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

1. Student dress codes are outlined in the student handbooks.
2. If a student violates the Code of Character, Conduct, and Support through clothing ~~When a particularly extreme form of dress contributes in any way to disruption of the school, to the drawing of attention of the students from their studies or contributes to noticeable and boisterous conduct as determined by the principal or designee,~~ the student may be asked to engage in a meeting with the Principal or designee and a parent/guardian. The student may also be asked to engage in alternative remedies, and/or may be subject to consequences in alignment with the Code of Character, Conduct, and Support. ~~temporarily suspended from attendance pending a conversation with the parents of the pupil.¶¶~~
3. ~~_____~~

LEGAL REF.: Acts of 2022, Chapter 117 -

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2022/Chapter117>

M.G.L. 71:83

REF: Code of Character, Conduct, and Support

Elementary Schools Handbook, Middle Schools Handbook, High School Handbook

SOURCE: Framingham

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

In recognition of the diversified characteristics and needs of our students and with the keen desire to be responsive to them, the School Committee ~~strives~~ will make every effort to protect the dignity of the students ~~as valued and respected individuals~~. The School Committee ~~It~~ also will offer careful consideration and ~~supportive~~ ~~sympathetic~~ understanding of their personal feelings, particularly with reference to their race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, age, genetic information, active military/veteran status, marital status, familial status, pregnancy, or pregnancy-related condition, homelessness, ancestry, ethnic background, national origin, or any other category protected by state or federal law. ~~race*, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or physical and intellectual differences.~~

To accomplish this, the School Committee and its staff will make every effort to comply with the letter and the spirit of the Massachusetts equal educational opportunities law which prohibits discrimination in public school admissions and programs. The law reads as follows:

No child shall be excluded from or discriminated against in admission to a public school of any town, or in obtaining the advantages, privileges and course of study of such public school on account of race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin or sexual orientation.

This will mean that every student will be given equal opportunity in school admission, admissions to courses, course content, guidance, and extracurricular and athletic activities.

All implementing provisions issued by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in compliance with this law will be followed.

*race to include traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture, hair type, hair length and protective hairstyles.

LEGAL REFS.: Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
 Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972
 Executive Order 11246, as amended by E.O. 11375 Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972
 M.G.L. [76:5](#); [76:16](#)
 M.G.L. [4:7](#); [22C:32](#); [71:89](#); [76:5](#); [76:12B](#); [151B:3](#); [151B:4](#); [265:39](#) (Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011)
 BESE regulations 603 CMR [26:00](#)
 BESE regulations 603 CMR [28.00](#)
 The McKinney-Vento Act and Title I Part A, as Amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015

Acts of 2022, Chapter 117 - <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2022/Chapter117>

CROSS REF.: [AC](#), Nondiscrimination

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

The School Committee's goal is to strive to address the needs of every student in each of our schools, ~~subject to budgetary, space and other limitations.~~

Educational equity for the purpose of this policy is defined as providing all students, as reasonably ~~practicable~~practical, the highest quality instruction and support they need to reach and exceed a common standard.

To achieve educational equity the ~~D~~istrict will commit to:

1. Systematically, when appropriate, use ~~D-district wide~~districtwide and individual school level data, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender/gender identity, national origin, language, special education, socioeconomic status and mobility to inform ~~D~~istrict decision making.
2. Raise the achievement of all students.
3. ~~Prepare~~Graduate all students ready to succeed in a diverse local, national and global community.

In order to reach the goal of educational equity for ~~each and~~ every student, the District shall:

1. Provide every student with access to high quality curriculum, support, and other educational resources.
2. Seek to promote educational equity as a priority in professional development and educator evaluation.
3. Endeavor to create schools with a welcoming and inclusive culture and environment.
4. Provide multiple pathways to success in order to meet the needs of the diverse student body and actively encourage, support and expect high academic achievement for each student.

The Superintendent shall include equity practices in the ~~D~~istrict's strategic plan and goal strategies to implement this policy. The Superintendent, upon request, will periodically report to the ~~School~~ Committee the progress of the implementation of this policy.

SOURCE: MASC – Updated 2021

To be Removed

FRAMINGHAM'S CURRENT POLICY

File: JCAA

RACIAL BALANCE POLICY: ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS TO SCHOOLS

Mission Statement of the Framingham Public Schools

The mission of the Framingham Public Schools, a system that understands and values our diversity, is to educate each student to learn and live productively as a critically thinking, responsible citizen in a multicultural, democratic society by providing academically challenging instructional programs taught by highly qualified and diverse staff and supported by comprehensive services in partnership with our entire community.

The Framingham School Committee believes that attendance in schools which reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of our community promotes students' understanding, appreciation, and acceptance of persons of various racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. The ability to learn and work with individuals of diverse backgrounds is an important skill for success in the world.

In accordance with these beliefs and the Massachusetts laws governing racial balance, (Chapter 636 of the Acts of 1974), M.G.L. Chapter 71, Sections 37C and 37D, it is the policy of the Framingham School Committee that each elementary and middle school shall enroll a student body that is racially balanced. Racial balance shall mean that each student body shall include a percentage of minority students, which reflects the system-wide percentage of minority students, plus or minus ten percent. Minority students will be defined in accordance with the categories established for state and federal reporting purposes. These categories are labeled on state reports as Black, Asian, Hispanic, and American Indian.

The Superintendent is charged with developing administrative regulations to implement and manage the district's program of controlled choice.

SOURCE: Framingham

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

All children of school age who reside in the City will be entitled to attend the public schools, ~~as will certain children who do not reside in the City but who are admitted under School Committee policies relating to nonresident students or by specific action of the School Committee.~~

Advance registration for prospective kindergarten students will take place in the spring. Every student seeking admission to school for the first time must present a birth certificate or equivalent proof of age and proof of vaccination and immunizations as required by the state and the School Committee. Proof of residency of parent/legal guardianship will also be required by the school administration.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. [15:1G](#); [76:1](#); [76:5](#); [76:15](#); [76:15A](#)
603 CMR [26:01](#); [26:02](#); [26:03](#)

CROSS REFS.: ~~JLCA, Physical Examination of Students~~
[JLCB](#), ~~Inoculations~~ [Immunizations](#) of Students
[JFBB](#), School Choice ~~Voted: January 9, 2018~~

Note: The MASC Reference Manual updates the reference section as shown below:

*LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. [15:1G](#); [76:1](#); [76:5](#); [76:15](#); [76:15A](#)
[603 CMR 26.00](#)*

*CROSS REFS.: [JLCA, Physical Examination of Students](#)
[JLCB, Immunization of Students](#)
[JFBB, School Choice](#)
[JFABD, Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services](#)
[JFABE, Educational Opportunities for Military Children](#)
[JFABF, Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care](#)*

SOURCE: Framingham