

## EXPECTANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

The Orleans Parish School Board is cognizant of the problems of marriage, pregnancy and parenthood among students prior to their graduation from high school. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to assure that such students have the opportunity to earn the education which they deserve.

It is recommended that a pupil who becomes pregnant notify the principal or guidance counselor in writing immediately upon knowledge of the condition. Pregnant pupils shall be permitted to continue in school in all instances when continued attendance has the sanction of the expectant mother's physician. A physician's statement shall be submitted stating the pupil's medical condition, approval for continued attendance, and activities in which the pupil may not participate. The student shall keep the school administration continually apprised of her progress. The school shall not be held responsible for any medical problems that may arise with a pregnant pupil while she is in school.

If the student must be absent from school for a prolonged period of time, the student may enroll in the School Board's Homebound Instruction program until released by her physician to return to regular classes. Any student who is not able to return to regular classes shall be encouraged to enroll in an appropriate alternative education program. Marital, maternal, or paternal status shall not affect the rights and privileges of pupils to receive a public education nor to take part in any extracurricular activity offered by the schools.

After delivery, the student shall be permitted to return to school as soon as she is physically able, upon certification by her physician.

In regard to each expectant and parenting student, each school and the Orleans Parish School Board shall:

1. Maintain confidentiality in regard to the student;
2. Ensure a safe and supportive learning environment for the student;
3. Promote academic success for the student;
4. Utilize sensible attendance policies, taking into account all necessary factors; and,
5. Provide a supportive school environment that promotes high school graduation.

Revised: February 16, 2017

Ref: US Constitution, Amend. XIV, §1, 20 USC §1681 et seq. (*Discrimination Based on Sex or Blindness*); La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:221.7; Cleveland Board of Education v. LaFleur, 94 S.Ct. 791 (1974); Davis v. Meeks, 344 F.Supp. 298 (N.D. Ohio 1972); Holt v. Shelton, 371 F.Supp. 821 (M.D. Tenn. 1972) ; Board minutes, 2-16-17.