TALBOT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EASTON, MD 21601 POLICY CODE 9.4

ADOPTED: 06/05/80 REVISED: 08/18/04 REVIEWED: 07/30/10

PROGRAMS FOR PREGNANT STUDENTS

- It is the State's responsibility to provide appropriate school programs for all students including pregnant girls, married or unmarried. Such programs shall be approved by the State Superintendent of Schools and shall include provisions for counseling, pupil personnel work, social work, and psychological services as needed.
 - A. A girl 16 years or older who is pregnant, either married or unmarried, who has not completed her high school education may elect to remain in the regular school program and shall not be involuntarily excluded from any part of this program. The decision to modify this program or provide appropriate alternative educational programs as defined in I. C. shall be reached in joint consultation with the girl and appropriate educational and medical personnel.
 - B. A girl who is pregnant, either married or unmarried, who is under compulsory school age, may voluntarily withdraw from the regular school program provided that she enrolls in an appropriate educational program planned for her. The decision concerning an appropriate educational program as defined in I. C. for the pregnant girl shall be reached in joint consultation with the girl, her parents, guardians, or husband, and appropriate educational and medical personnel.
 - C. Appropriate educational programs may be:
 - 1. Continuation of the regular school program (modified in terms of individual needs)
 - 2. Enrollment in a special school or special class for pregnant girls
 - 3. Enrollment in a residential school (may be regional)
 - 4. Telephone teaching
 - 5. T.V. teaching
 - 6. Home Hospital Instruction
 - 7. Programmed Instruction
 - 8. Admittance to a private maternity home
 - 9. Combination of the above programs
 - D. It is the responsibility of the local school system working with the home to cooperate with other State, County, and City agencies, such as health, welfare and juvenile services and with private physicians or agencies to assure that the

pregnant girl receives proper medical, psychological, and social services before termination of pregnancy and for as long as needed thereafter.

Bylaw 13A.08.01.06 was established so that girls who became pregnant while in high school, whether married or unmarried, should have the opportunity to continue their high school education. The Bylaw also implies that procedures be established whereby the disposition of each case would be determined through a conference with the parents and the student and educational, medical, and paramedical personnel. An important element of such a decision is the student's own desire to remain in school or out

A pregnant girl will qualify for home hospital instruction if the local system has followed the procedure as outlined in Bylaw 13A.08.01.06 and if a physician supplies a written recommendation that the student's physical and/or emotional stability is seriously impaired by remaining in school and, in fact, does recommend home hospital instruction. The total number of hours of instruction per week shall be six (6).