

### ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLING/HOME SCHOOLING

In New Jersey the Legislature under the compulsory education law (N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25) has permitted children to receive "equivalent instruction elsewhere than at school", including the home. Accordingly, the Township of Franklin Board of Education recognizes that alternative instructional programs are available from local and national sources.

The compulsory education law is enforced by the local Board of Education. Accordingly, if there is credible evidence that the parent, guardian or other person having custody and control of a school-age child is not causing the child either to attend school (public or nonpublic) or to receive equivalent instruction elsewhere than at school, the board may request written documentation from the parent(s)/guardian(s) showing that the child is either in nonpublic school or receiving equivalent instruction elsewhere than at school.

If a child returns to school following a period of home schooling, the placement of the child in the appropriate grade shall be based on an objective assessment that is used for all students in that grade. In assessing the child educated elsewhere than at school, the child may not be held to a higher standard than similarly situated students within the district or transferring from other public or nonpublic schools.

Date: June 15, 1983  
Revised: December 18, 1985  
Revised: November 20, 2000

Legal References:

<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:7A-1	Thorough and Efficient
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:38-25	Compulsory Attendance
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:8-4.3(a)3vi,vii	Disruptive and Disaffected Pupils

State v. Massa, 95 N.J. Super. 382 (Morris County, 1967)

State v. Vaughn, 44 N.J. 142 (1965)

Cross References: 5131 Student conduct  
6164.4 Child study team