

CASWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY	<u>STUDENTS</u> Pupil Assignment from Non-Public Schools or Charter Schools	411
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I. Introduction

A parent/legal guardian/legal custodian is allowed to form a home school for the purpose of teaching his children at home. These home schools must meet specific requirements of the Governor’s Office, Division of Non-Public Education. Home schools must register with the State North Carolina School Office, submit credentials for the home school teacher, operate on a full nine-month calendar, maintain attendance records, and see that students are tested annually with standardized instruments. Home schools are encouraged to offer daily instruction similar in quality, scope and duration to instruction at local public schools. Approved home schools fulfill the State’ compulsory attendance requirements.

A charter school in North Carolina is a deregulated public school operated by a group of parents/legal guardians/legal custodians, teachers, and/or community members as a semi-autonomous school of choice within a school district, operating under a “charter” with the State Board of Education. Charter schools operate under the conditions and terms outlined in the General Statutes.

A non-accredited private school is a private school that has registered with the North Carolina Division of Non-Public Education in the Governor’s office but has not been accredited by an appropriate agency. Chapter 115C of the General Statutes outlines the operational terms and conditions of non-public schools.

II. Procedures and Criteria for Grade Placement and Award of Academic Credit in Public Schools

Students who have been taught in a home school, non-accredited private school, or charter school and decide to enroll in Caswell County Public Schools must meet the following requirements in order to receive credit for instruction received in the home school, non-accredited private school, or charter school. Students cannot be dual enrolled in the Caswell County Public Schools while enrolled in a home school, non-accredited private school or charter school. Only students enrolled in the Caswell County Public Schools will be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities. The Caswell County Public School System provides testing services only to students enrolled in the Caswell County Public Schools.

The public school shall be provided with:

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1. Documentation of registration of the home school or non-accredited private school with the North Carolina Division of Non-Public Education;
2. The student's birth certificate;
3. The student's immunization record;
4. The student's attendance record;
5. A transcript from the non-accredited private school or charter school documenting work completed;
6. The annual nationally standardized testing results at the appropriate grade level for the student or annual results from state required tests;
7. A syllabus for the work completed; and
8. Any other documentation that will assist, if it applies.

III. Placement

- Principals will place students basing the placement on work documented and taking into account their chronological age, social development, emotional maturity, and their physical development.
- The principal shall make the final decision regarding credit for grade levels completed and grade placement.
- The principal shall have the authority to grade and classify pupils, except a Principal shall not require additional testing of a student entering a public school from a non-public school, if test scores from a nationally standardized test or nationally standardized equivalent measure that are adequate to determine the appropriate placement of the child are available. Principals are free to require further testing of students, if existing test scores are inadequate.

IV. Credit and Grades

- By law, credit is assigned at the Principal's discretion and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

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- Credit and grades earned in home schools or non-accredited private schools will be recorded on the student’s transcript as pass or fail and designated as Home Schooled (HS0 or Private Non-Accredited (PNA) on the transcript, with no curriculum level or course weight considered.
- A student and parent/legal guardian/legal custodian must present evidence that students have completed a minimum requirement of 135 clock hours of instruction per unit of credit for high school credit.
- In order to participate in class rank, a student must have a minimum of thirteen (13) credits (for a “4 x 4” school) or eleven (11) credits (for a “Traditional” school) from an accredited private school or public school.

V. Assignment of Students to Classes

Students will be assigned to classes by the principal of the school the student attends.

In the primary and elementary schools the principals of the respective schools are encouraged to seek recommendations from teachers and counselors.

In the high school the following procedures will be used:

1. The school will provide to the student a registration form and a copy of the course description booklet for the following school term for course selection.
2. The student and parents of the student involved will make the course selections for the following school term.
3. The registration form will be signed by both the student and parent and returned to school.
4. The homeroom teacher and/or counselor will review the registration forms to insure appropriate student/parent choices.
5. Criteria relating to appropriate course selection will be determined by the school on an annual basis after study of student achievement and class performance.

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6. Inappropriate choices determined by the teacher and counselor will necessitate a conference with the parent and student.

7. If agreement cannot be reached, the parent will have the final authority to select the course of study for the student. Any level taken below the school's recommendation will require the parent to sign a malpractice waiver.

8. Any level taken higher than the school's recommendation will require the parent to sign a waiver.