

# DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Danbury, Connecticut

## POLICY

### *PUPIL SERVICES, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING*

Adopted: 4/11/2001

Policy No. 8-500

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Pupil Services shall be available to all students in the Danbury Public Schools.

Pupil Services include speech, psychology, social work, guidance counseling and health services. Services provided shall be designed to support the educational progress of students in the Danbury Public Schools.

These services shall:

1. Develop the ongoing capability of the individual students to understand and deal with self, school and community;
2. Assist individual students in the development of the ability to make informed choices regarding academic programs and careers;
3. Monitor the academic and affective progress of students as they move through the Danbury Public Schools;
4. Provide information and consultation to school staff and parents on students' educational, emotional, social and health status as they relate to education;
5. Ensure that all students have required health assessments and immunizations.

For those students experiencing academic and/or behavioral difficulties in school, there shall be:

1. Assessment of the educational, psychological, health and social factors relating to the difficulty;
2. Counseling, when appropriate, related to the educational needs of the student;
3. Consultation with school staff and parents to assist them in developing effective strategies;
4. Referral to school programs or services, outside agencies, or individuals where appropriate.

Pupil Services staff have a role in providing services to staff and administration by:

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1. Providing professional development to the school staff on topics of expertise;
2. Providing training to staff on issues identified through state regulations and/or Danbury policy (Child Abuse, Suicide Prevention).

Guidance and counseling are integral and important components of educational programs in the Danbury Public Schools which:

1. Develop the capability of the individual to understand and deal with self and environment in a framework of social and moral values;
2. Assist Individual students in the development of the ability to make informed choices of behavior and direction;
3. Include specific responsibilities assigned to all professional members of the school system staff for guidance processes in which teachers and guidance counselors collaborate in consultation with pupils, parents and administrators;
4. Provide program of appropriate guidance and counseling procedures involving, for all age levels, on-going educational planning, career awareness, testing and appraisal for use by the individual and the school, aid for personal and social problem solving, orientation to new school settings and assistance to teachers and parents in understanding students and their progress in school.