

EXPECTANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

The Virtual Academy of Lafourche Charter Board is cognizant of the problems of marriage, pregnancy and parenthood among students prior to their graduation from high school. The Board authorizes the Director to assure that such students have the opportunity to earn the education which they deserve.

It is recommended that a pupil who becomes pregnant shall notify the site manager or guidance counselor in writing immediately upon knowledge of the condition. Pregnant pupils will 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.

Should the student need to be absent from school for a prolonged period of time, the student may continue in virtual status with supervision by their EC program until released by her physician to return to regular classes. Any student who is not able to return to regular classes shall contact the site manager who will make necessary arrangements to successfully complete their education.

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 site and the Virtual Academy of Lafourche 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.