

MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendents and Principals

From: Ms. Robin LeClaire, Director of School Improvement
Ms. Courtney Hott, School Counseling Specialist

Date: May 24, 2019

Re: Senate Enrolled Act 29 - School Materials for Juvenile Detainees

Background:

The Indiana General Assembly recently added IC 20-26-5-38 requiring school corporations, if a student is detained for seven or more days, and upon request by the juvenile detention facility or the child's parent, to provide the school materials for the grade level or courses in which the student is enrolled or would be enrolled if he/she was not detained. The school corporation must continue to deliver materials every seven days to the juvenile detention facility (excluding non-instructional days). Additionally, there were changes to work completion requirements during a student's suspension.

Guidance:

This new legislation pertains to school corporations with students who are being detained in a juvenile detention facility. The school corporation must deliver all materials to the juvenile detention facility every seven days during which the student is detained (excluding non-instructional days) upon request from the facility or parents of the detained child. Materials are defined as curricular materials and syllabi. This does not include hardware that will be consumed, accessed, or used by a single student during a semester or school year. The corporation may deliver the materials electronically. School corporations are responsible for any costs associated with providing materials to the detained student except for rental fees for materials.

Next, if a student is suspended (regardless of being detained), the student is required to complete all assignments and school work assigned during the period of the student's suspension. The principal or the principal's designee must ensure the suspended student receives notice of any assignments or school work due and provide teacher contact information in the event the student has questions regarding the assignments or school work. Students may make up tests/quizzes upon return.

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Finally, each school corporation shall annually prepare a list of alternative education programs in the same county in which the school corporation is located or a county immediately adjacent to the county in which the school corporation is located, and virtual charter schools in which a student may enroll if the student is expelled. This list must contain contact information for the listed entities. A copy of this list must be provided to the student or the student's parent at the expulsion meeting. If the student or student's parent fails to attend an expulsion meeting, a copy of the list must be mailed to the student's residence. Furthermore, corporations must provide the student and the student's parent notice that the student may be required to comply with IC 20-33-2 or any statute relating to compulsory school attendance.

Note: If a student is expelled, it is a violation of IC 20-33-2 or any other statute relating to compulsory school law, if the student can, but does not enroll in an alternative education setting or virtual charter school.

If you have any questions, please contact either Robin LeClaire at 317-232-0524 or e-mail her at rleclaire@doe.in.gov or Courtney Hott at 317-232-0552 or e-mail her at chott@doe.in.gov.

This bill was authored by Senator Mike Bohacek and full bill text can be found [here](#). Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found [here](#).