

Education Laws Requiring Parental Notification

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Issue

What types of events or occurrences in schools require parental or guardian notification under Connecticut’s education statutes (Title 10)?

Summary

We found 38 instances where state statutes require parent or guardian notification following an event or occurrence at school. They can be categorized as academic, legal, special education, operational, athletic, health, safety, and disciplinary occurrences.

Occurrences Requiring Parent or Guardian Notice

The following tables list the statutes in each of the eight categories of school occurrences that warrant parent or guardian notice. They also describe the (1) nature of the event or occurrence and (2) form of parental contact that the statute requires.

Table 1: Academic Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-14u(d)(3)	Low reading proficiency identified. Elementary school student (grades K-3) has been identified as below proficient in reading	Principal must notify parent or guardian in writing to explain why the student is below proficiency and inform them that a remediation plan will be developed for the student to provide supplemental reading instruction, which includes strategies for the parent or guardian to use at home with the student

Table 1 (continued)

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-17f(c)	Insufficient English language mastery identified. Student in a bilingual education program is not making sufficient progress toward meeting the state English mastery standard	Local or regional board of education must provide language support services (e.g., summer school, after-school assistance, tutoring) to the student in consultation with the parent or guardian to allow the student to meet the state standard.
PA 23-150 , § 17(a) (codified at 10-17o)	Eligibility for English learner programs identified. Student is identified as eligible to participate in a bilingual or “English as a new language” program	Parent or guardian must receive, written in both English and parent’s/guardian’s dominant language, (1) written notice of the student’s eligibility and (2) a copy of the “the multilingual learner bill of rights”
10-220h(a) & -220k	Student records transferred. Student (1) enrolls in a school in a new district or in a new state charter school or (2) is confined to a residential facility under court order	School that the student previously attended must notify the parent or guardian when it transfers the student’s education records to the new school or residential facility (if the parent or guardian did not give written authorization for the transfer)
10-220q(c)	Eligibility for Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program (CAAP) determined. Student’s eligibility for CAAP is determined in the final year of high school	Board of education must notify each of these students and their parent or guardian about whether they meet the academic threshold to be admitted to at least one participating institution under the CAAP
10-265g(b) & (c)	Student reading level evaluated in priority school district. Student enrolled in priority school district is determined to be substantially deficient in reading, based on an assessment in grades K-3	School must notify student’s parent or guardian, develop and implement an individual reading plan for the student, and give the plan and specific reading strategies to the parent or guardian to use at home

Table 2: Legal Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-66bb(h)	Charter school placed on probation. Charter school is placed on probation by the education commissioner	Commissioner must notify parents or guardians of the attending students about the school’s probationary status and the reasons for it

Table 2 (continued)

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-186(a) & (b)(3)	School accommodations denied. Board of education denies a student transportation services or other school accommodations, including denial based on student residency	Board must inform the student's parent or guardian of their right to request a hearing before the board
10-234dd(a)(3)	Student data security breached. Board of education receives notice of a security breach involving the unauthorized release of student information	Board must electronically notify parents or guardians within two business days of receiving notice of the breach

Table 3: Special Education Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-76d(a)(4)	Special education eligibility identified. Student is identified as eligible for special education	Planning and placement team (PPT) must (1) ask the parents or guardians whether the student is enrolled in or eligible for Medicaid and (2) request, but not require, that the student apply for Medicaid if eligible (some special education and related services are Medicaid eligible)
10-74n(b) , as amended by PA 23-137 , § 29	Student reaches grade 6 (and annually thereafter). Student requiring special education begins grades 6-12	Board of education must annually distribute to parents or guardians a notice about the online listing of the transition resources, transition services and public transition programs provided by the various state agencies
10-76d(a)(9)(B)	Student reaches age 14. First PPT meeting after the student reaches age 14 and has a statement of transition service needs included in his or her individualized education program (IEP)	PPT must provide the students' parents or guardians a listing of each public transition program for adults for which such child may be eligible after graduation
10-76d(a)(9)(C)	Prior to graduation or end of school year of 22nd birthday. No later than (1) two years before student's anticipated graduation date or (2) the end of the school year when the student will turn 22.	PPT must provide the student's parents or guardians a list of adult programs that each state agency provides for which the student may be eligible

Table 3 (continued)

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-76d(a)(10)(A) , as amended by PA 23-137 , § 39	Board proposes or refuses to make special education program changes. Board of education proposes to, or refuses to initiate, changes to a student's identification, evaluation, or educational placement.	Board of education must notify the student's parents or guardians in writing no later than five school days before the proposal or refusal occurs.
10-76d(a)(10)(C) as amended by PA 23-137 , § 39	PPT meeting is planned. PPT meeting is planned (for any reason).	Board of education must notify parents or guardians five school days before the meeting is held.
10-76d(a)(10)(D) , as amended by PA 23-137 , § 52	Eligibility determined for special education. Student is formally identified as eligible for special education and related services.	Board of education must immediately inform the student's parents or guardians about special education laws, certain parental rights, and relevant IEP information and resources
10-76d(a)(10)(F)(iii)	New school year and first PPT meeting. New school year begins and first PPT for the student is held that year.	Board of education must give a brief notice of mediation availability created by SDE's mediation services coordinator to the student's parents or guardians by (1) distributing it at the beginning of the school year and (2) reading it aloud at the end of the student's first PPT meeting
10-76ff(a)(3) & (b)(3) , as amended by PA 23-137 , § 37	Eligibility determination. Team of qualified professionals, along with parents or guardians, determines whether a student is eligible for special education or related services.	Board of education must (1) give the documentation for this determination to the student's parent or guardian and (2) notify the parent or guardian about the PPT's decision, the reasons for it, and the family's right to request an assessment to determine whether the student continues to be a child requiring special education and related services
10-76xx	Gifted or talented student identified. School identifies a student as gifted or talented	Board of education must electronically notify the student's parents or guardians immediately upon identification
10-94g	Surrogate parent appointed. Student under Department of Children and Families' supervision who is enrolled in Unified School District #2 may have a surrogate parent (i.e., an advocate in the educational decision-making process in place of the child's parents or guardian) appointed for him or her	Parent or guardian must be notified by certified mail that the student is or may be eligible to receive special education or related services

Table 4: Operational Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-95o(b)	Public hearing planned on the closure or operations suspension of a technical high school. Technical Education and Career System (TECS) executive director must make a comprehensive plan about the closure or suspension of a school before a public hearing is held and a vote is taken by the TECS board	TECS executive director must mail a copy of the comprehensive plan to enrolled students' parents or guardians at least 14 days before the public hearing.

Table 5: Athletic Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-149b(e) , -149f(c)(2) & -149h	Informed consent required on student athlete concussions, cardiac arrest, and exertional heat illness. Student participates in intramural or interscholastic sports	Schools must give each student athlete's parent or guardian an informed consent form to sign about these conditions and related education programs and policies
10-149c(a)(1)	Concussion symptoms observed. Coach removes a student athlete from play after he or she exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion	Qualified school employee must notify the student's parent or guardian within 24 hours after removal and must make a reasonable effort to immediately provide this notification

Table 6: Health Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-206	Health assessments planned. Boards of education must require students to undergo health assessments to determine whether (1) they are suffering from any physical disability tending to prevent them from receiving the full benefit of school work and (2) the school work should be modified to prevent injury or secure a suitable education program	The student’s parent or guardian must receive written prior notice and the opportunity to be present or provide the assessment himself or herself
10-206d	Oral health assessment planned. Boards of education must request that each student submit to an oral health assessment	The student’s parent or guardian must receive written prior notice and the opportunity to opt the child out, be present at, or provide the assessment himself or herself
10-210	Disease detected. School medical advisor finds that a student is suffering from a disease	Notice must be given to the student’s parent or guardian, along with the medical advisor’s advice or order
10-214	Vision, audiometric, and postural screenings held. When students in certain grades receive these screenings, a defect or problem may be found	Superintendent must give written notice to a student’s parent or guardian about the problem; notice is also required when the student did not receive a screening, along with an explanation why
10-217j	Connecticut School Health Survey distributed. Survey will be administered to students in grades 9-12	Boards of education must distribute a form to parents or guardians at least 21 days before it is administered; form must explain the survey and how to opt-out the student from participation, as well as contain the online link to the survey
10-222t	Social-emotional learning assessed. Boards of education may administer a social-emotional learning assessment to students	Students’ parents or guardians must receive prior written notice about the assessment and must give permission for students’ participation

Table 7: Safety Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-222d(b)(4) *	Bullying report received. Safe school climate specialist receives a report of bullying in the school	Specialist must ensure that the parents or guardians of the student alleged to have committed the bullying and the parents or guardians of the student against whom the bullying was directed are promptly notified that an investigation of the report has begun
10-222d(b)(8), (b)(9) & (b)(10) *	Investigation found verified acts of bullying. Safe school climate specialist has completed an investigation of a bullying report and found that acts of bullying did occur	School must notify the parents or guardians of the student who committed verified acts of bullying and the parents or guardians of the student against whom the bullying was directed within 48 hours after the investigation's completion; also must notify them, both verbally and by email (if known) that they may refer to the plain language explanation of the rights and remedies available under CGS §§ 10-4a and -4b School must invite both sets of parents or guardians to separate meetings with the school to discuss safety measures for the bullied student and interventions to prevent further acts of bullying
PA 23-167 , § 53 (codified at CGS § 10-222gg)	School climate survey administered. Beginning in the 2025-26 school year, every two years, a school's climate committee must administer a school climate survey	Each student's parent or guardian must receive prior written notice about the survey's content and administration and must have a reasonable opportunity to opt the student out of participating
10-231c(c)(1) & - 231d	Pesticide application planned. Pesticide application is planned within a school building or on its grounds	School must maintain a registry of each parent or guardian requesting notice of this application and must email them no later than 24 hours prior to pesticide application
10-280b	Wide age range for nonpublic school students on the school bus. Nonpublic school receives transportation services from the board of education for the town, and there is an age range of 10 years or more among students who ride the same bus	Nonpublic school must have a policy for notifying parents or guardians about the age range on the bus

*Statute will be repealed on July 1, 2025, and replaced with [PA 23-167](#), §§ 47-55, 71 & 74

Table 8: Disciplinary Occurrences

<i>Statute (CGS §)</i>	<i>School Event or Occurrence</i>	<i>Form of Parental Contact</i>
10-233d(a)(3)	Expulsion hearing planned. Board of education must hold a formal hearing before expelling a student (unless an emergency exists)	If the student is a minor, parents or guardians must receive notice of the hearing at least five business days prior; notice must include information about the (1) parent's, guardian's, and student's legal rights and (2) legal services provided free of charge or at a reduced rate
10-233e	Disciplinary action taken. Board of education takes any of the following disciplinary action against a student: removal from class, suspension, or expulsion	Board must use an effective means to notify parents or guardians of any minor student against whom disciplinary action was taken within 24 hours
10-233f	Preschool expulsion hearing planned. Preschool student found in possession of a firearm, automatically triggering an expulsion hearing	Student's parent or guardian must be given notice of a formal expulsion hearing; notice must include information about legal services provided free of charge or at a reduced rate
10-236b(h)	Physical restraint or seclusion used. Student is placed in a physical restraint or seclusion	Board of education must make a reasonable effort to notify student's parent or guardian immediately afterward but no later than 24 hours later

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