

POLICY

HAMBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Care of School Property
M

5513 CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

The Board of Education believes that the schools should help pupils learn to respect property and to develop feelings of pride in community institutions. The Board charges each pupil enrolled in this district with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to his/her use.

Pupils who cause damage to school property will be subject to disciplinary measures. The Board authorizes the imposition of a fine for the loss, damage, or defacement of a textbook and reserves the right to withhold a report card or diploma from any pupil whose payment of a fine is in arrears.

A pupil who demonstrates chronic and/or serious disregard for property may be referred to the Child Study Team.

The Superintendent shall develop rules for the safekeeping and accounting of textbooks and prepare a schedule of fines for lost and damaged textbooks.

N.J.S.A. 18A:34-2; 18A:37-3
N.J.A.C. 6A:23-6.6

Adopted: 13 August 2008



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R 5513 CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

A. Teachers' Responsibilities

1. Teachers will exercise judgment in the entrustment of school property to pupils.
2. Teachers will impress upon all pupils the importance of the proper care of school property and instruct pupils in the proper use of school facilities, equipment, instructional materials, and textbooks.
3. Teachers will keep an accurate inventory of textbooks and other materials assigned to their classrooms.

B. General Rules Governing the Use of School Property

1. Pupils shall not deface the school building, furnishings, or equipment in any manner.
2. Pupils shall not use school furnishings or equipment for purposes other than those for which the furnishing or equipment was designed and intended.
3. Pupils will care for school textbooks in accordance with D.

C. Distribution and Collection of Textbooks and Materials

1. Each textbook will be stamped as the property of the Board of Education and marked with a number unique to that book.
2. A label will be affixed to the front of each textbook and will include:
 - a. The name of the Board of Education,
 - b. The name of the school,
 - c. The year in which the book was purchased, and
 - d. The number assigned to the book.
3. The following information will also be entered on the label each time the book is issued to a pupil:



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- a. The name of the pupil to whom the book is issued,
 - b. The date on which the book is issued to the pupil,
 - c. The condition of the book when it is issued, and
 - d. The condition of the book when it is returned.
4. Each classroom teacher will keep a permanent record of the textbooks used in his/her classroom. The record will include all the information listed in C2 and C3.
 5. A lost textbook must be promptly reported to the teacher who issued the book. A replacement textbook will be issued immediately.
 6. Textbooks will be collected and inspected before the end of the school year or marking period, as appropriate. Once inspected, a textbook will be returned to inventory until it is again distributed to a pupil.
 7. Pupils must remove covers, loose papers, and markings before returning any textbook.
 8. Fines will be assessed for lost and damaged textbooks in accordance with E.
- D. Care of Textbooks by Pupils
1. Pupils shall take care not to lose or misplace a textbook or expose a textbook to conditions or circumstances likely to destroy, damage, or degrade it.
 2. All textbooks that will be taken home by pupils must be protected with an appropriate cover to be supplied by the pupil.
 3. Pupils should not:
 - a. Use pens, pencils, or other implements to mark a place in a textbook;
 - b. Use a textbook to file bulky papers and notes;
 - c. Write in textbooks; or
 - d. Soil textbooks beyond normal use.



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E. Fines and Penalties

1. Fines will be assessed as follows for any lost textbook or textbook damaged beyond normal wear.

Loss or damage	Fine
Lost book issued in new condition	80% of list price
Lost book issued in good condition	60% of list price
Lost book issued in fair condition	40% of list price
Lost book issued in poor condition	20% of list price
Broken bindings	\$1
Defaced cover	50 cents
Missing pages	25 cents per page
Loose or torn pages	10 cents per page
Marks not damaging to text	5 cents per page
Marks damaging to text	25 cents per page
Dog-eared pages	10 cents per page
Soil not damaging to text	5 cents per page
Loss or damage	Fine
Soil damaging to text	25 cents per page
Book so damaged (by water or otherwise) as to be unusable	as for lost books

2. The teacher will inspect each textbook returned and will assess a fine for each lost or damaged book. The teacher will prepare a form in triplicate that includes:
 - a. The name and number of the textbook damaged or lost;
 - b. The name of the pupil;
 - c. The loss or damage to the textbook; and
 - d. The amount of the fine.
3. In setting fines the teacher may take into account verified extenuating circumstances.
4. A pupil who finds their lost textbook will be reimbursed any fine paid for the lost textbook but will be assessed a fine for any damage done to the book.



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5. A pupil who has not paid a fine owed will not receive a diploma, transcript, transfer card, or report card until the fine has been duly paid and acknowledged.
6. If fines remain unpaid, the Principal may request payment from the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), notify the pupil's employer, or take such other steps as may be appropriate to ensure that moneys due the district are paid and that the importance of taking responsibility for the consequence of one's acts is instilled.

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