



IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

To: All Parents/Guardians Residing Within the Keystone School District
From: Shawn Algoe, Superintendent
Date: July 22, 2019
Re: **Important Changes to Pennsylvania's Compulsory School Age**

The Pennsylvania Legislature recently passed several bills that relate to the Pennsylvania School Code as part of the Fiscal Year 2019-20 State Budget. House Bill 1615 became Act 16 of 2019 when the Governor signed it into law on June 28, 2019.

The new law changes the definition of "compulsory school age" in Section 1326 of the PA School Code to read as follows:

"Compulsory school age" shall mean the period of a child's life from the time the child's parents elect to have the child enter school and which shall be no later than six (6) years of age until the child reaches eighteen (18) years of age. The term does not include a child who holds a certificate of graduation from a regularly accredited, licensed, registered or approved high school.

Important Change in Definition of "Compulsory School Age"

Effective September 26, 2019, all children from the age of six (6) through the age of eighteen (18) must comply with compulsory school attendance requirements. To meet these requirements, parents must ensure that their child between the ages of 6 and 18 is attending or participating in one of the following: a public elementary, middle, or high school; a public charter or cyber-charter school; a private licensed academic or private religious school; home tutoring by a certified teacher; or an approved program of home schooling. Children may be excused from compulsory attendance for documented medical or other compelling reasons as outlined in District attendance policy and procedures.