

School Committee Item gb #5-144.1:

Request that the Administration provide the number of Worcester Public Schools families that are homeschooling their child/ren and include the names of the schools and the number of counselors involved in this program.

According to the compulsory attendance statute under Massachusetts law, parents/guardians may choose to educate their children at home and must notify the school district of such practice.

To date, the Worcester Public Schools received 207 applications for homeschooling of school-age children. There were 237 applications in 2012-2013 and 230 applications in 2013-2014 school year.

The break down per quadrant for the 2014 – 2015 school year is:

Burncoat Quadrant: 40 students
Doherty Quadrant: 67 students
North Quadrant: 63 students
South Quadrant: 37 students

Students being educated through home schooling may have access to public school extra-curricular activities, including sports (see proposed language under gb # 5-113.1).

All registered homeschool children are not enrolled in the Worcester Public Schools. However, parents/guardians may enroll their child in the Worcester Public Schools, at any time, by visiting the Parent Information Center.