

Academic Governing Council

Decision Form

Children in the Classroom Policy 8.18

This form is to be used when the Academic Governing Council makes a decision on an issue. This form is sent to the Provost.

Decision: Children in the Classroom Policy 8.18

Proposed Policy:

1. Classroom Policy

GRCC prohibits bringing children to class and/or leaving them unattended on campus, such as halls, the library, the student center, or computer labs.

2. Campus Policy

Children accompanying visitors, employees, or students of Grand Rapids Community College must be under the constant supervision of a responsible adult while on GRCC property or on the site of any approved off-campus class or other GRCC event.

(Please see full policy language at the end of this form.)

Rationale:

- This policy, last reviewed in 2007, was assigned to a team for review and revision as necessary.
- Children accompanying visitors, employees, or students of Grand Rapids Community College must be under the constant supervision of a responsible adult while on GRCC property or on the site of any approved off-campus class or other GRCC event. Members of the College community, such as, administrators, faculty, staff, or students are not authorized to assume responsibility for the caring of the children, unless the person is leaving the child in a College program sanctioned for children. Children on campus without the proper supervision may disrupt the educational process or work setting. Leaving the children unsupervised may also create a safety hazard for the children themselves or for others at the College.

Supporting Data:

- This policy was developed using a team approach, with representation from Psychology and Music faculty members, Counseling, and Student Support, as well as comments from teaching and non-teaching faculty and discussion at AGC meetings in January, February, and March 2014.
- Team members reviewed the existing document and discussed it with colleagues. The team also benchmarked with GVSU, which is currently in the process of establishing a policy on children in the classroom.

Implications for Action:

- Under Contacts and Procedures, change Dean of Student Affairs to Associate Director of Student Conduct and Student Satisfaction Initiative.

- Children accompanying visitors, employees, or students of Grand Rapids Community College must be under the constant supervision of a responsible adult while on GRCC property or on the site of any approved off-campus class or other GRCC event.
- Children found unattended will be reported to the College police, who will follow-up with the child to obtain information on who his or her parent or guardian is. That person will then be located and required to supervise the child or leave campus.

Evaluation Plan:

This academic policy should be reviewed again in Winter, 2019

Date of Decision by AGC: March 11, 2014

Response from Provost:

The Provost endorses the Children in the Classroom Policy as approved by the AGC effective July 1, 2014.

Peter Johnson 6/18/14