



Skagway Fire Department

Municipality of Skagway

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sgyfire@skagway.org



22 January 2016

RE: Fire Department Cadets

To: Superintendent Coughran

Mr. Coughran,

I appreciated the opportunity to speak with you and Ms. Cosgrove regarding the ability of students in the Fire Department's cadet program to carry a pager and respond to emergencies during school hours.

I understand that there is some concern that the pagers that Fire Department volunteers carry could cause undue disruption in the classroom. I will endeavor to attend the upcoming School Board meeting on January 26th so that i may demonstrate their use to you and answer any other questions you might have. I do have a Search and Rescue training that coincides with the School Board meeting, so may be a little late in arriving.

Thank you for your consideration;

jeremy simmons
Fire Chief
Skagway Volunteer Fire Dept.

From: Jeremy Simmons <j.simmons@skagway.org>
Subject: Cadet program
Date: January 14, 2016 12:18:19 PM AKST
To: "jcoughran@skagwayschool.org" <jcoughran@skagwayschool.org>

Josh,

Below is a redrafted our cadet policy, based on our discussions Monday, updating the academic requirements and adding some more specific language. I have mirrored the language in your handbook regarding eligibility. I would appreciate your review and any feedback you might have.

410.4 Cadets

1. Members of the Department who are between the ages of 16 and 18 are classified as Cadet Responders.
2. Cadets are eligible for election to full membership after they reach the age of 18, but those who are still enrolled in Skagway School shall be held to the academic requirements of the cadet program until their graduation.
3. In order to respond to emergency calls, a current semester of "B" or better is required in all subjects. A student may attend training, but not respond, with a "C" or "F" grade. Students with any "D" or "F" grades may not participate in any department events.
4. Cadets shall provide the department with a copy of their current grades on the first day of each month.
5. Cadets must follow all policies and procedures established by Skagway School for permission to attend emergency calls during school hours.
6. Attending emergency calls during school hours is a privilege and must not be abused. Immediately after being released from emergency duties, cadets must promptly return to school. Failure to do so may result in this privilege being suspended.

Also, after thinking about it a bit, we discussed how the school might address the student leaving school to respond to emergencies, but not at all about them coming back to class. Some emergency responses can last greater than an hour, spanning multiple class periods, and i would think you might want to have some guidance if, say, a student has a test during a following period. I am sure there are other issues that could arise.

jeremy simmons, Chief | Fire Department

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