

Students – Attendance

Absences and Excuses

The Board of Education believes that regular attendance and punctuality plays an important role in student achievement. The Board shall work with parents/guardians and students to ensure their compliance with all state attendance laws, and may use appropriate legal means to correct problems of chronic absence or truancy.

Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies, and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. (Education Code 48205)

Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be considered excused subject to law and administrative regulations. (Education Code 46014)

Inasmuch as school attendance and class participation is integral to students' learning experiences, parents/guardians and students shall be encouraged to schedule medical appointments and other appointments during non-school hours.

Students shall not be absent from school without their parents/guardians' knowledge or consent, except in cases of medical emergency or, as authorized pursuant to Education Code 46010.1, for a confidential medical appointment.

The Board shall, by resolution entered into its minutes, approve reasonable methods that may be used to verify student absences due to illness or quarantine. (5 CCR 421)

Legal Reference: Education Code, Sections 1740; 37201; 37223; 41601; 42238-42250.1; 46000; 46010-46014; 46100-46119; 46140-46147; 48200-48208; 48210-48216; 48240-48246; 48260-48273; 48292; 48320-48324; 48340-48341; 48980; 49067; 49701
Elections Code Section 12302
Family Code, 6920-6929
Vehicle Code, 13202.7
Welfare and Institutions Code, 601-601.4 & 11253.5
Code of Regulations, Title 5, Sections 306 & 420-421
Attorney General Opinions: 87 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 168 (2004); 66 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 244 (1983)
Court Decisions: American Academy of Pediatrics et al v. Lungren et al (1997) 16 Cal. 4th 307

Policy Adopted: 06/16/1959

Policy Amended: 06/04/1985; 05/21/1996; 01/14/2003; 05/06/2014; 09/05/2017

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