

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

The Governing Board believes that regular attendance 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 the problems of chronic absence or truancy.

Excused Absences

Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law, Board policy and administration regulations.

Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be considered excused subject to law and administrative regulation.

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

~~At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall send a notification to the parents/guardians of all students, and to all students in grades 7 through 12, informing them that school authorities may excuse any student from school to obtain confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent/guardian.~~

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.

~~Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be considered subject law and to administrative regulations.~~

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.

Effect of Absence on Grades/Credits

~~If a student's absence is excused under Education Code 48205, he/she shall be allowed to complete any missed assignment or test that can be reasonably given, as determined by the teacher of that class. The student shall be given full credit for the assignment or test if he/she satisfactorily completes the assignment or test within a reasonable period of time.~~

~~A student's grades may be affected by excessive excused absences in accordance with Board policy.~~

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 1740 Employment of personnel to supervise attendance (county superintendent)
- ~~2550-2558.6~~ ~~Computation of revenue limits~~
- 37201 School month
- 37223 Weekend classes
- 41601 Reports of average daily attendance
- 42238.8-42250.1 Apportionments
- 46000 Records (attendance)
- 46010-46014 Absences
- 46100-46119 Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools
- 46140-46147 Attendance in junior high and high schools
- 48200-48208 Children ages 6 -18 years (compulsory full-time attendance)
- 48210-48216 Exclusions from attendance
- 48240-48246 Supervisors of attendance
- 48260-48273 Truants
- 48292 Filing complaint against parent
- 48320-48324 School Attendance Review Boards
- 48340-48341 Improvement of ~~pupil~~ *student* attendance
- 49067 Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade
- 49701 Provisions of the interstate compact on educational opportunities for military children

ELECTIONS CODE

- 12302 Student participation on precinct boards

FAMILY CODE

- 6920-6929 Consent by minor *for medical treatment*

VEHICLE CODE

- 13202.7 Driving privileges; minors; suspension ~~nor~~ delay for habitual truancy

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

- 601-601.4 Habitually truant minors
- 11253.5 Compulsory school attendance

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 306 Explanation of absence
- 420-421 Record of verification of absence due to illness and other causes

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

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

- Improving Student Achievement by Addressing Chronic Absence, Policy Brief, December 2010

WEB SITES

- CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Adopted

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