

10100 STUDENT ATTENDANCE AREAS

10110 Student Attendance Policy

Authority

It is the duty of the Board to ensure that all children living within its jurisdiction have an equal opportunity to receive a free and appropriate education and to require school attendance by all children living within the District, as prescribed by law.

The educational program offered by the District is predicated upon the presence of the student in school. In order for students to benefit from planned educational activities and classroom participation, it is essential that regular attendance be maintained.

Right to Attend Public School

The Superintendent or his/her designee is empowered to develop procedures, in compliance with state requirements, which guarantee the right of every school-age resident student to attend the public school. A student's assigned school shall be the school located in his/her attendance area unless special programs, services or facilities necessitate assignment to another building. Non-resident students of school age who are living with and under the supervision of a District resident shall be entitled to the same educational programs and services as those enjoyed by resident students providing that authorization and an appropriate agreement with the non-resident student's home district is in place. The category of "non-resident students" includes school-aged students residing in an institution or other facility within the District.

10110 Student Attendance Policy

Absences From School

Students shall be excused from school only for absences which are stipulated as “excusable” in the school code **and for which, at the discretion of the District, a satisfactory excuse has been submitted. In order to be considered a satisfactory excuse, the excuse, in addition to stating the lawful reason for the absence, must also contain the original, handwritten signature of an individual who is authorized to submit the excuse to the District on behalf of the student.**

When a student is absent from school for reasons which are not consistent with “excused absences” in the school code, the absences shall be recognized as “unlawful” for students of compulsory school age and “unexcused” for students beyond compulsory school age. The District shall maintain procedures and attendance/absence records in compliance with the school code.

Excessive Absences

The District has a responsibility to investigate excessive absences by students. This applies to students of compulsory school age as well as those beyond compulsory school age. A Doctor’s excuse shall be requested when excessive absences occur. Students beyond compulsory school age may not be maintained on District rolls when they do not attend school regularly. The District shall maintain procedures for investigating excessive absences.

Withholding Academic Credit

Academic credit may not be withheld solely on the basis of excessive absences.

Adoption Date	-	September 13, 1999
Practice	-	
Legal Reference	-	