

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Background

Students are required to attend school in accordance with The Education Act, 1995 and this administrative procedure. Furthermore, regular attendance is one of the most important aspects of academic success. School staff will partner with students and parents/guardians to ensure students meet the attendance requirements outlined in The Education Act, 1995 and school division administrative procedures. Attendance intervention plans provide parameters, supports and reinforcements to achieve consistent attendance and subsequent academic success for all students.

Students who are absent, regardless of the reason, are responsible for learning the class material and catching up on all missed work.

All school related activities (extracurricular or curricular) will be marked “school” and are not considered an absence towards a student’s attendance.

All division bus related issues will be marked “NEED CODE ” and are not considered an absence towards a student’s attendance.

Attendance

If students are going to be absent from class/school, parents are asked to contact the school prior to an absence. When prior contact has not been made, the school will attempt to contact parents/guardians directly or use a computerized attendance notification system to inform the parents/guardians of the absence.

For Elementary Students

- If prior contact has not been made with the family OR the school has identified a concern with the student’s attendance, at seven (7) full day absences, school administration will inform the parents/guardians of the concern and document.
- At thirteen (13) full day absences, school administration will contact the parent/guardian to discuss the student’s attendance and, where there is a concern, may send an absence notification letter or arrange a meeting to discuss the concern and develop a plan for moving forward.
- At any time, the school may reach out to school division personnel for support.
- At twenty (20) full day absences, attendance concerns will be referred to the school’s Superintendent for discussion. Further action may include a phone call, letter, or parent meeting.

For High School Students

- If prior contact has not been made with the family OR the school has identified a concern with the student's attendance, at seven (7) semester class absences or three (3) block system classes, school administration will inform the parents/guardians of the concern by sending them an Absence Notification Letter. The student and their parents/guardians may be asked to meet with school personnel.
- At eleven (11) semester class absences or five (5) block system classes, school administration will contact the parents/guardians to discuss the student's attendance and, where there is a concern, arrange a meeting to discuss the concern and develop a plan for moving forward.
- At fifteen (15) semester class absences or seven (7) block system classes, and where there is a concern, the student and his/her parents/guardians will be required to meet with the school team to discuss the attendance concerns and next steps. Next steps may include revisiting the plan or removing the student from the class.

For Students Over the Age of 16

- Once a student has missed 20 consecutive days or 10 block system days, the student will be removed from their classes and their name forwarded to the school's Superintendent for further action/tracking.

LATES

Students who are chronically/habitually late may be subject to progressive discipline, as determined by school administration, leading to possible removal from the class.

Students who miss the class instruction OR 20 minutes of class time may be marked absent from class.

Reference: Section 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162 Education Act

June 5, 2024