

**COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY**

The Board of Education believes that attendance is a key factor in student achievement. Thus any absence from school represents an educational loss to the student.

Each year the Board of Education establishes a school calendar specifying the days schools are in session and which students are expected to attend. In accordance with State law, “every child who has attained the age of seven(7) years and is under the age of sixteen(16) years” shall attend school except as provided by appropriate status.

If a student fails to attend school as specified above and the absence is considered an unexcused absence, the following shall occur:

1. first unexcused absence during a school semester – the teacher, counselor, principal, parent and student will confer in order to determine the reason for the absence and attempt to avoid any repeat of the situation.
2. If unexcused absences continue by the same student – the attendance officer who is designated as the Principal of the School to which the student is assigned, shall confer with the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s). Notify them of the compulsory attendance law and the consequences of legal action to be instituted by the School District if unexcused absences continue.
3. In the event of a fourth unexcused absence in any given month, or on the occasion of the tenth absence by a given student in any school year, the Superintendent of Schools shall cause judicial proceedings pursuant to Section 22-33-108 of the Colorado Statutes to commence.

Procedures shall be established in order to annually notify parents of each child of this policy, including the parents of student enrolling children during the school year. Each parent will be asked to acknowledge their awareness of this policy and their obligation to have their children in school.

Principals will establish a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences of children which shall provide that whenever a child who is enrolled in school fails to report to school and school personnel have received no indication that the child’s parent is aware of the child’s absence, school personnel shall make a reasonable effort to notify by telephone such parent.

LEGAL REFS: CRS 22-33-104  
CRS 22-33-104.5  
CRS 22-33-107  
CRS 22-33-108

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