## **Compulsory Attendance**

"The parent or guardian of any child who has attained the age of seven (7) years, but not the age of sixteen (16) years shall cause that child to be instructed in subjects commonly and usually taught in the public schools. Unless the child is otherwise comparably instructed, the parent or guardian shall cause the child to attend a public, private, or parochial school for a period each year equal to that during which the public schools are in session." Idaho Code § 33-202

## Attendance:

Parents or guardians are responsible to have children (7 through 16) enrolled and in attendance in a public, private, or parochial school. This school must meet the certification and standard requirements of the State of Idaho. Idaho Code 33-202 through 205

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the education of all school-aged children within District boundaries. Therefore, it reserves the right to insure comparability of services at all other schools.

Whenever it is determined by the Board, or the Board's designee, under the provisions of due process of law that the parents or guardians of any child who is not enrolled in the public schools are failing to meet the requirements of Idaho Code § 33-202, an authorized representative of the Board shall notify in writing the prosecuting attorney in the county of the pupil's residence and recommend that a petition shall be filed in the magistrates division of the District Court of the county of the pupil's residence, in such form as the court may require under the provisions of Idaho Code § 20-510.

All students are expected to be in attendance unless absent for unavoidable reasons. Students will be allowed to accumulate no more than seven (7) excused absences in a class period. Any student that has more than the seven (7) excused absences will be subject to loss of credit due to excessive absences per the attendance review committee recommendation. The following are considered excused absences:

- Illness of student
- Doctors appointment
- Death in the family
- Summons to a court of law
- Family emergency

In order for an absence to be excused one of the following requirements must be met:

- Parent/guardian confirmation of the absence within two (2) school days of the absence (a written note or phone call by parent/guardian).
- Upon return to school from a doctor's appointment, the student must present a physician's excuse.

If the above requirements for an excused absence are not met, then the absence will be counted as unexcused and a zero will be recorded in any class missed. Any student that is more than 15 minutes late to class will be considered absent (unexcused). Any student that has three (3) unexcused absences will be subject to loss of credit per the attendance review committee recommendation.

Students who are absent, because of participation in school activities such as sports, band, drama, or class activity such as field trips, will be automatically excused, and such events will not count toward the seven (7) absence total.

Parents of all students will be notified in writing when their child(ren) have missed over five (5) and (7) class periods.

Elementary students in grades K-6 will be expected to attend school on a regular basis and once a student has accumulated five absences in a given semester, the parents of that student must be notified in writing by the district. After seven absences in a given semester, Elementary students will be subject to retention review.

## **Tardies**

A student that is late to class, less than 15 minutes, will be considered tardy. Three (3) tardies will equate to 1 unexcused absence.

Any student in grades 7-8, must meet the following criteria in order to be promoted to the next grade level.

- Students shall be required to attain a minimum of 80% of their credits in order to be promoted to the next grade level.
- Students will not be allowed to lose a full year of credit in one area (i.e. a student would not be able to fail a full year of math) and automatically move on to the next grade level.
- Students not meeting (or in jeopardy of not meeting) credit requirements will be given an opportunity to recover credits or complete an alternate mechanism in order to be eligible for promotion to the next grade level.

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Legal Reference: Art. IX, § 9, Idaho Constitution – Compulsory Attendance at School

I.C. § 33-201 School age

I.C. § 33-202 School attendance compulsory

I.C. § 33-207 Proceedings against parents or guardians

**Board Action** 

ADOPTED: 9/8/86

AMENDED: 7/30/90, 3/8/93, 6/13/05, 2/8/2012, 8/10/2015

REVIEWED: 10/21/98

SECTION 400: PUPIL AND PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES