

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY

The ~~Governing~~ Board of Education believes that excessive student absenteeism and tardiness, whether caused by excused or unexcused absences, may be an early warning sign of poor academic achievement and may be an indicator of dysfunctional behaviors brought on by social and emotional issues. ~~The Board believes these issues may put students at risk of dropping out of school.~~ The Board desires to ensure that all students attend school in accordance with the state's compulsory education law and take full advantage of educational opportunities provided by the district.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

~~The Superintendent or designee~~ There shall be an established ~~a~~ system to accurately track ~~and monitor~~ student attendance, including methods to identify students classified as chronic absentees and truants, as defined in law and administrative regulation, ~~and to identify patterns of absence throughout the district.~~

~~He/she~~ The Superintendent or designee shall annually provide the Board with data on school attendance, chronic absence, and truancy rates for all district students, for each school, and for each numerically significant student subgroup as defined in Education Code 52052. Such data shall be disaggregated and used in the development of annual goals and specific actions for student attendance and engagement and for inclusion in the district's ~~Local Control and Accountability Plan~~ and other applicable school and district plans.

(cf. 0400 – Comprehensive Plans)

~~*(cf. 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*~~

(cf. 0420 – School Plans/Site Councils)

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 0460 – Local Control and Accountability Plan)

~~*(cf. 5126 – Awards for Achievement)*~~

~~*(cf. 5131 – Conduct)*~~

~~*(cf. 5137 – Positive School Climate)*~~

~~*(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment)*~~

To encourage school attendance, the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies that focus on prevention ~~and early intervention~~ of attendance problems, which may include, ~~but are not limited to~~, efforts to provide a safe and positive school environment, relevant and engaging learning experiences, school activities that help develop students' feelings of connectedness with the school, ~~school-based health services, The Superintendent or designee also may provide~~ and incentives and rewards to recognize students who achieve excellent attendance or demonstrate significant improvement in attendance. ~~The Superintendent or designee also shall implement develop~~ strategies that enable early outreach to students and families as soon as they show signs of poor attendance.

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5141.6 – School Health Services)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall work with students, ~~and~~ parents/guardians, school staff, and community agencies, as appropriate, to identify factors contributing to chronic absence and truancy. ~~Based on this needs assessment,~~ He/she ~~shall~~ may also collaborate with community agencies, including, but not limited to, child welfare services, law enforcement, courts, ~~and/or~~ public health care agencies, other government agencies, and/or medical, mental health, and oral health care providers to ensure that alternative educational programs and nutrition, health care, and other support services are available for students and families and to intervene as necessary when students have serious attendance problems.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
~~*(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)*~~
(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)
~~*(cf. 5145.6 - School Health Services)*~~
(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)
(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)
~~*(cf. 5149 - At Risk Students)*~~
(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)
(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)
(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)
(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)
(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)
(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)
(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)
(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)
(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

Students who are identified as truants shall be subject to the interventions specified in law and administrative regulation.

A student's truancy, tardiness, or other absence from school shall not be the basis for his/her out-of-school suspension or expulsion. Alternative disciplinary strategies and positive reinforcement for attendance shall be used whenever possible.

(cf. 5144 – Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report ~~to the Board regarding the district's progress in improving student attendance rates for all students and for each numerically significant student population. Such information shall be used~~ to evaluate the effectiveness of strategies implemented to reduce chronic absence and truancy and to make changes as needed. As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall engage school staff ~~and community agency partners~~ to engage them in program evaluation and improvement and in identification of how to best allocate available community resources.

School Attendance Review Board

The Board ~~shall~~ may submit ~~a~~ nominations to the County Superintendent of Schools for a ~~person who will serve as~~ district representative on the county SARB. (Education Code 48321)

~~As required by law, In accordance with law and administrative regulation, habitual truants may be referred to a the Sschool Aattendance Rreview Bboard (SARB), a truancy mediation program operated by the county's district attorney or probation officer, and/or a juvenile court.~~

The Board shall appoint members of the district's SARB, who may include, but are not be limited to, ~~a parent/guardian as well as~~ representatives of: ~~Board of Education, the district, county probation department, county welfare department, county office of education, law enforcement agencies, community-based youth service centers, school guidance personnel, child welfare and attendance personnel, school or county health care personnel, school, county, or community mental health personnel, the county district attorney's office, and the county public defender's office.~~ (Education Code 48321)

The district's SARB shall operate in accordance with Education Code 48320-48325 and procedures established by the Superintendent or designee.

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

1740 *Employment of personnel to supervise attendance (county superintendent)*

37223 *Weekend classes*

41601 *Reports of average daily attendance*

46000 *Records (attendance)*

46010-46014 *Absences*

46110-46119 *Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools*

46140-46147 *Attendance in junior high and high schools*

48200-48208 *Children ages 6-18 (compulsory full-time attendance)*

~~48225.5 *Work permits, entertainment and allied industries*~~

48240-48246 *Supervisors of attendance*

48260-48273 *Truants*

48290-48296 ~~7~~ *Failure to comply; complaints against parents*

48320-48325 *School attendance review boards*

48340-48341 *Improvement of student attendance*

CHRONIC ABSENCE AND TRUANCY (continued)

48400-48403 Compulsory continuation education

48900 Suspension and expulsion

~~49067 Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade~~

52052 Academic Performance Index; numerically significant student subgroups

60901 Chronic absence

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act

PENAL CODE

270.1 Chronic truancy; parent/guardian misdemeanor

272 Parent/guardian duty to supervise and control minor child; criminal liability for truancy

830.1 Peace officers

VEHICLE CODE

13202.7 Driving privileges; minors; suspension or delay for habitual truancy

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

~~256-258 Juvenile hearing officer~~

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

15497.5 Local control and accountability plan template

COURT DECISIONS

L.A. v. Superior Court of San Diego county, (2012) 209 Cal. App. 4th 976

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

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

~~Attendance Awareness Month, Fact Sheet, September 2014~~

ATTENDANCE WORKS PUBLICATIONS

Count Us In! Working Together to show that Every School Day Matters, 2014

The Power of Positive Connections: Reducing Chronic Absence Through PEOPLE: Priority Early

Outreach for Positive Linkages and Engagement, 2014

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

School Attendance Review Board Handbook, ~~2009~~ 2015

School Attendance Improvement Handbook, 2000

WEB SITES

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

Attendance Counts: <http://www.attendancecounts.org>

California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare and Attendance: <http://www.cascwa.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Health Kids Survey: <http://chks.wested.org>

California School Climate, Health, and Learning Survey System: <http://www.cal-schls.wested.org>

OnTrackCA: <http://www.ontrackca.org>

Policy

adopted: ~~September 13, 2011~~ September 11, 2018

NEWPORT-MESA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Costa Mesa, California