

Document Status: Adopted as Presented by IASB

Section 7 - STUDENTS

7:70 Attendance and Truancy

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of regular and sustained attendance at school to afford students the maximum benefit from the educational program of the School District. The Board of Education further recognizes that valid causes for absences of students from school also exist. The Board defines such valid causes of absence from school as student illness, or other medical necessity, quarantine, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, attendance at a civic event, PRESSPlus1 family emergencies, economic necessity, reasonable concern on the part of the parent for the health or safety of their child, or other family hardship.

The district administration shall deem students who are absent without valid cause for a school day or part of a school day as truant. Any student who is absent without valid cause from school attendance for five percent (5%) or more of the previous 180 school days shall be subject to tiered interventions as specified in the supporting administrative procedure.

The District shall not engage in punitive action against a student who is truant without first either providing to the student supportive services and other school resources designed to eliminate the truancy or documenting that available supportive services and resources have been offered and refused.

Once students are receiving tiered interventions, teachers and building administrators will develop a plan to include instruction, work completion, and assessment with a defined timeline.

The Superintendent is directed to promulgate rules and regulations to implement this policy.

Monitoring PRESSPlus2

Pursuant to State law and policy 2:240, Board Policy Development, the Board updates this policy at least once every two years. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its update.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/22-92 and 5/26-1, et. seq. through 18.

705 ILCS 405/3-33.5, Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

23 Ill. Admin.Code §§1.242 and 1.290.

CROSS REF.: 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 6:150 (Home and Hospital Instruction), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-

District Schools), 7:60 (Residence), 7:80 (Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance), 7:90 (Release During School Hours), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:340 (Student Records)

Adopted: December 19, 2022