

Oak Park Elementary School District #97

Bylaws & Policies

5200 - ATTENDANCE

The Board of Education, as an agency of the State, is required to enforce the regular attendance of students. The Board recognizes that the presence in the classroom enables the student to participate in instruction, class discussions, and other related activities. As such, regular attendance and classroom participation are integral to student success.

Attendance shall be required of all District students, except those exempted under Policy [5223](#) or by other provisions of State law, during the days and hours that the school is in session.

Student attendance is the responsibility of the parents/guardians and the student. Principals will monitor absences, and parents/guardians of students whose absences are rapidly accumulating will be contacted by the principal.

After giving proper notice to the parent/guardian, the Superintendent shall report to the Regional Superintendent infractions of the law regarding the attendance of students between the ages of seven (7) and seventeen (17) years. Regular attendance in all classes shall be encouraged and expected of students. Students shall be made aware that attendance is part of the evaluation in each class and that excessive absences may drastically affect their educational program. **Repeated infractions of Board policy requiring the attendance of enrolled students may result in the suspension or expulsion of the student from the District program. A chronic or habitual truant is defined as a student who is absent without valid cause for five percent (5%) or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days.**

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the attendance of students which:

- A. ensure a school session which is in conformity with the requirements of the law;
- B. ensure that students absent have an opportunity to make up work they missed in collaboration with the teacher and within reasonable limits;
- C. ensure the student is not given a failing grade or his/her credit is not unconditionally revoked where lack of attendance is the sole or primary determining factor, but which allow reduction in grade or denial of credit, if the student does not make appropriate use of make-up sessions provided by the instructor or administrator;
- D. govern the keeping of attendance records in accordance with the rules of the State Board;
- E. identify students with excessive tardies and absences, investigate the cause(s) of his/her behavior, and consider supportive services modification of his/her educational program to meet particular needs and interests and/or report such absences to the Regional Superintendent;
- F. ensure that any student who, due to a specifically identifiable physical or mental impairment, exceeds or may exceed the District's limit on absence is referred for evaluation for eligibility either under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- G. realizing that a student's absence negatively impacts that student's progress and that of the class, encourage attendance on all school days in order to optimize the education of all children

in the classroom;

H. discourage voluntary days off by all building principals;

I. ~~during ISAT testing, students whose parents do not grant permission for testing will be able to attend classes during non test taking time.~~

105 ILCS 5/26-1 et seq.
23 Ill. Admin. Code 205

Revised 2/14/07
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