

Additions shown in blue underlined text

~~Deletions shown in red strikethrough text~~

Students

BP 5113(a)

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

The School Board believes that regular attendance is directly related to the success a student achieves in school. The Board recognizes its responsibility under the law to ensure that students attend school regularly. Parents/guardians of children aged 7 to 16 are obligated to send their children to public school except as allowed by law. The Board shall abide by all state attendance laws and may use any legal means to correct the problems of chronic poor attendance or truancy. School-sponsored field trips and sports trips, and activity trips are considered in-session school days as such trips are part of the school instructional program.

Poor attendance shall result in the following action:

- 1) For every four (4) days of absence in a semester a letter will be sent to parent(s) and/or guardian(s) to inform them of the District's concern.
- 2) When a student shows chronic poor attendance (more than twelve (12) absences in a semester) the superintendent/designee will meet with parent(s) and/or guardian(s) to review absences and student academic standing. This meeting will result in a plan to rectify the situation and keep student academic achievement in alignment with the student's individual education plan.

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

~~*(cf. 6171 - Adequate Yearly Progress)*~~

Excused Absences

The Superintendent or designee may excuse student absences for health reasons, family emergencies or other reasons the Superintendent or designee determines constitute good cause.

Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be excused.

No student excused for religious holiday shall be denied the opportunity to make up a test given on the religious holiday or denied an award or eligibility to compete for an award.

(cf. 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work)

Unexcused Absences/Truancy

The Board is committed to keeping students in school. Truancy is defined as the absence of a student from class without the knowledge or prior consent of the parent/guardian. The Superintendent or designee shall implement whatever steps are deemed appropriate to reduce student absences and to ensure that all children residing within the district are receiving appropriate educational services as required by law.

| Additions shown in blue underlined text

~~Deletions shown in red strikethrough text~~

Students

BP 5113(b)

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES (continued)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Study Teams)

(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)

A student's grades may be affected by excessive unexcused absences in accordance with Board policy.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board any apparent violations of compulsory attendance laws. The Board shall investigate such reports and any public complaints of violations of state compulsory attendance laws. When warranted, the Board shall initiate a complaint with the district court against any person believed to be in violation of state compulsory attendance laws. (AS 14.30.030)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.070 School age

| 14.17.~~080~~-500 Student count estimates

14.17.160 Student counting periods

14.30.010 When attendance compulsory

14.30.020 Violations

14.30.030 Report of violations and procedures

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 09.005-4 AAC 09.105 State aid

Revised 11/05