

## TRUANCY

Descriptor: JHB Issued: Draft 08/05/2012  
Rescinds: JHB-E Issued: 01/23/1996

### BOARD POLICY

1. Every compulsory school aged child enrolled in the District shall attend school unless he or she has a valid excuse. Students who are absent without a valid excuse are considered truant and shall be timely reported to the State Board of Education in accordance with state law.

2. Continued truancy may lead to academic failure, placement in the alternative school program and/or suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary action shall be taken against students who are truant.

The Board authorizes the superintendent to establish administrative procedures consistent with this policy.

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

1. Students under the following circumstances are not truant:

1.1 They are physically, mentally or emotionally incapable of attending school as determined by the appropriate school official and based upon sufficient medical documentation.

1.2. They are pursuing a course of special education, remedial education or education for handicapped or physically or mentally disadvantaged children.

1.3. They are being educated in a legitimate home instruction program.

2. If a student has been adjudicated truant and ordered to enroll or re-enroll in school, the superintendent may assign the student to the alternative school program.

### REFERENCES

MCA § 37-13-91

Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards 16, 17

JEA Compulsory Attendance Ages

JH Student Absences and Excuses

Dr. Loden:

Our current policy JBH-E (technically, an exhibit) should be deleted since it is a statement of what the State Board of Education is required to do rather than a statement of our Board's policy relative to truancy.

~~JBH E~~

~~Pursuant to section 37-13-91, subsection 8 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended 1991, the State Board of Education is required to adopt rules and regulations for the purpose of reprimanding any school superintendent who fails to report timely unexcused absences. The following procedures shall be followed:~~

- ~~1. A District Attorney in conjunction with the school attendance officer may present evidence to the Department of Education, Office of Community and Outreach Services, that a school superintendent has failed to report unexcused absences in a timely manner. Such a charge must be in writing and supported by written evidence.~~
- ~~2. The State Department of Education will review the evidence within seven days of receipt and determine if further action is warranted.~~
- ~~3. If no action is warranted, the State Department of Education will notify the District Attorney in writing of the determination. Should sufficient evidence of non-compliance exist, the local school superintendent will be notified in writing and given ten (10) working days from the date of receipt to submit a response.~~
- ~~4. After an examination of all evidence, the State Department of Education may recommend to the State Board of Education issuance of a letter of reprimand. Both parties may present their written evidence to the State Board of Education whose decision will be final.~~
- ~~5. The Office of Accreditation will be notified that the school district is not in compliance with the Compulsory School Law. After issuance of a letter of reprimand by the State Board of Education, the Office of Accreditation will note such violation in the accreditation records.~~

~~Reference: State Board of Education, October 20, 1995~~