

STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Students between the ages of six (6) and eighteen (18) are required to maintain regular and punctual patterns of attendance. Regular and punctual patterns of attendance will be required of each student enrolled in the District. Student absences will be excused for:

- Illness
- Family emergency
- Death
- Physician/Dentist/Counseling appointment
- Religious Holiday

The Superintendent is directed to develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy and developing procedures to ensure that:

1. Attendance is accurately checked, recorded, and reported to the school office each day for each class.
2. All student absences are recorded.
3. All permanent records of student attendance are maintained at either the school district or SAU central office.

Truancy is an unexcused absence from school or class without administrative permission. Ten half days of unexcused absences during a school year shall constitute habitual truancy. A half day absence is defined as half of 5.2 hours.

When students are absent the school principal/principal's designee will first phone the parent/guardian. If the truancy continues, the school administration will send by registered mail a letter to the parents of the truant student indicating the nature and seriousness of the problem and enclose a copy of RSA 193:1.

If the student remains truant, the school administration will send a letter to the parents/guardian of the truant student requesting contact. Continued absences may result in contact with DCYF and the student's being designated a Child in Need of Services (CHINS).

Legal References:

RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil

RSA 193:7 Penalty

RSA 193:8, Notice Requirements

RSA 193:16 Bylaws as to Nonattendance

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04 (a)(1), Attendance and Absenteeism

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04 (c), Policy Relative to Attendance and Absenteeism

FMRSB

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