

STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Regular attendance by all students is very important. In many cases, irregular attendance is the major reason for poor schoolwork; therefore, all students are urged to make appointments, do personal errands, etc., outside of school hours.

Reasons for which students may be excused include, but are not limited to:

1. personal illness of the student;
2. illness in the student's family;
3. needed at home to perform necessary work directly and exclusively for parents or legal guardians (applies to students over 14 years of age only);
4. death in the family;
5. quarantine for contagious disease;
6. religious reasons;
7. traveling out of state to attend a Board-approved enrichment activity or extracurricular activity (applies to absences of up to ~~four days~~ **24 school hours**) or
8. as determined by the Superintendent.

Each student who is absent must immediately, upon return to school, make arrangements with his/her teacher(s) to make up work missed. Students who are absent from school for reasons not permitted by State law may, or may not, be permitted to make up work. Each case is considered on its merits by the principal and the respective teacher(s). Students are requested to bring a note to school after each absence explaining the reason for the absence or tardiness.

The Board does not believe that students should be excused from school for vacations or other nonemergency trips. The responsibility for such absences resides with the parent(s), and they must not expect any work missed by their child to be retaught by the teacher. If the school is notified in advance of such a trip, reasonable efforts are made to prepare a general list of assignments for the student to do while he/she is absent.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish a hearing and notification procedure for the purpose of denying a student's driving privileges if that student of compulsory school age has been absent without legitimate excuse for more than ~~10~~ **60** consecutive ~~days~~ **hours during a school month** or a total of at least ~~15 days~~ **90 hours** during a ~~semester or term~~ **school year**.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.609
3321.01; 3321.03; 3321.04; 3321.13; 3321.14; 3321.19; 3321.38
4510.32

CROSS REFS.: IGAC, Teaching About Religion
IKB, Homework
JEDB, Student Dismissal Precautions
JHC, Student Health Services and Requirements
JHCC, Communicable Diseases

*NOTE: In 2009, the Ohio General Assembly enacted House Bill (HB) 1, which directed school districts to count – up to ~~four days~~ **24 school hours** as excused absences – time that a student is absent from school for the sole purpose of traveling out of state to a board-approved enrichment activity or an extracurricular activity. The student is required to make up all missed classroom assignments.*

*In addition, if the student will be out of the state for ~~four~~ **24** or more consecutive school ~~days~~ **hours** for a board-approved enrichment activity or extracurricular activity, a classroom teacher employed by the board must accompany the student to provide instructional assistance.*

THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY