

STUDENT ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING
(Missing and Absent Children)

The Board believes in the importance of trying to decrease the number of missing children; therefore, efforts are made to identify missing children and to notify the proper adults or agencies.

Except where required by State law, at the time of initial entry into school, a student shall present to the person in charge of admission an official copy of a birth certificate and copies of those records pertaining to him/her that were maintained by the school that he/she most recently attended. In lieu of a birth certificate, birth documentation may include:

1. a passport or attested transcript thereof filed with a registrar of passports at a point of entry of the United States showing the date and place of birth of the child;
2. an attested transcript of the certificate of birth;
3. an attested transcript of the certificate of baptism or other religious record showing the date and place of birth of the child;
4. an attested transcript of a hospital record showing the date and place of birth of the child or
5. a birth affidavit.

Except where required by State law, if the student does not present copies of the required documents, the principal shall call the school from which the student transferred and request the information. If that district has no record on file of the student or if that district does not send the records within 14 days, the principal shall notify the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction in the area where the student resides of the possibility that the student might be a missing child.

The primary responsibility for supervision of a student resides with his/her parent(s). The staff provides as much assistance as is reasonable to parents with this responsibility.

Parents must notify the school on the day a student is absent unless previous notification has been given in accordance with school procedure for excused absences. The District makes an attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student who has not notified the school of the student's absence that day regarding that student's ~~unexcused~~ absence **without legitimate excuse** within 120 minutes of the start of the school day. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to determine and use the appropriate notification procedure and methods consistent with State law.

Parents or other responsible persons shall provide the school with their current home and/or work telephone numbers, home addresses and any emergency telephone numbers.

The Board designates the Superintendent to develop informational programs for students, parents and community members relative to the subject of missing children.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 109.65
2901.30
3313.205; 3313.672; 3313.96
3319.321; 3319.322
3321.12
3321.141
3705.05

CROSS REFS.: JEC, School Admission
JECAA, Admission of Homeless Students
JED, Student Absences and Excuses
JEDB, Student Dismissal Precautions
JHF, Student Safety

NOTE: In developing your own policy and complying with the spirit of the law, you may want to consider the following:

- *Building administrators should be consulted during the development of this policy and any related regulations.*
- *Materials for informational programs may be obtained from the State Department of Education.*
- *Ohio Revised Code Section (RC) 3313.96 authorizes school districts to develop a voluntary student-fingerprinting program in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies.*
- *RC 3319.322 requires the school principal to request any person authorized to take student photographs to provide a wallet size photograph of each student for inclusion in his file.*

Each school district should make its own decision as to what best suits the needs of their particular district.

House Bill (HB) 367 (2014) defines a “protected child” as a child placed in a foster home as defined by Ohio Revised Code Section (RC) 5103.02 or in a residential facility defined as a group home for children, a children’s crisis care facility, children’s residential center, residential parenting facility that provides 24-hour childcare, county children’s home or district children’s home. A protected child or their parent/guardian has 90 days from initial entry to the school to present a birth certificate or comparable document. The definition and accompanying prohibition on denying a protected child admission based solely on inability to present a birth certificate upon enrollment is found in RC 3313.672.

*HB 166 added a requirement that districts will attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student regarding that student’s ~~unexcused~~ absence **without legitimate excuse** within 120 minutes of the start of the school day using a method consistent with State law. The following methods are acceptable:*

- *A telephone call placed in-person*
- *An automated telephone call (via a system that includes verification that each call was actually placed)*
- *A notification sent through the school’s automated student information system*
- *A text message*
- *An email*
- *An in-person visit*
- *Any other notification procedure that has been adopted by resolution of the board of education*

Schools are not required to notify a parent who notifies the school of the student’s absence within the first 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day. In addition, an immunity provision is included in the new law, which states that a school district or any officer, director, employee, or any member of the district board of education is not liable in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property from an employee’s action or inaction in good faith compliance with the law.

THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY