

STUDENTS
Student Absences & Excuses

File: JH

- A. Pupils are permitted to be absent from school in observation of established religious holidays, but they must be counted absent on all school records.
- B. Regular and punctual attendance is expected of every student. Continued absences and irregular attendance will be considered sufficient cause for retention or academic consequences.
- C. Absences for suspension or expulsion are unexcused. These absences are not considered to be truanancies.
- D. Any student who has been absent from class for six consecutive weeks or more in any one school year, except for reasons of expulsion, excused long term illness or death, is considered a “dropout” and shall be reported to the Department of Education by the school district. However, if the student is in attendance at the end of the school year, or enrolled in another school, home study course or on-line program, such student is not considered a dropout and shall not be reported.
- E. Excused absences may include family emergencies, illness, medical appointment, death-related absences, school business and field trips. Other absences are considered unexcused. Under Colorado law, the determination of "excused" and "unexcused" absences rests with the school principal.
- F. No credit shall be permitted for any student for any class or portion of a class during which time the student was truant.
- G. A principal or teacher shall not permit a pupil to leave school in the custody of a person other than the child’s parent or legal guardian unless that person has the authorization of one of the parents or legal guardian.
- H. Nothing in this policy shall negate a pupil leaving the building under school supervision for school related purposes.

ADOPTED: November 28, 1977
REVISED: October 16, 2007

LEGAL REFS: C.R.S. 22-2-114.1 (3)(a) (*definition of “dropout” student*)
C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(n) (*length of school year, instruction & contact time*)
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(a) (*conduct and discipline code*)
C.R.S. 22-33-101 *et seq.* (*School Attendance Law of 1963*)
C.R.S. 22-33-105 (3)(d)(III) (*opportunity to make up work during suspension*)

CROSS REFS: JC/ICA, School Year/School Calendar/Instruction Time
JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages
JHB, Truancy
JK, Student Discipline
JKD/JKE, Suspension/Expulsion of Students