

**EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD POLICY**

Students

**ABSENCES AND EXCUSES
BP 5113**

The Governing Board believes that regular attendance plays an important role in student achievement. The Board recognizes its responsibility under the law to ensure that students attend school on a regular basis. Parents/guardians of children between the ages of 6 and 18 are obligated to send their children to school unless otherwise provided by law. The Board shall abide by all state attendance laws and may use any legal means to correct the problems of excessive absence or truancy.

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)
(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)
(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)

Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies, and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law and Board policy, and specified in administration regulations. *(Education Code 46010, 48216, 48205)*

ABSENCES FOR CONFIDENTIAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Inasmuch as class participation is an integral part of students' learning experiences, parents/guardians and students shall be encouraged to schedule medical appointments during nonschool hours.

At the beginning of each academic year, district notifications shall be sent to parents/guardians and students, informing them that school authorities may excuse any student from school to obtain confidential medical services without the consent of the student's parent/guardian. *(Education Code 46010.1)*

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Students should not be absent from school without their parents/guardians' knowledge or consent, with the following exceptions:

1. In cases of medical emergency.
2. When the student has a confidential medical appointment.

ABSENCES FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES

The Board shall allow students to be absent for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property. Such absences shall be considered excused subject to administrative regulations. (*Education Code 46014*)

TRUANCY

The Superintendent or designee shall implement positive steps to reduce truancy, such as communication with parents/guardians.

(*cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention*)
(*cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes*)

The Board shall participate in the El Dorado County School Attendance Review Board (SARB) as allowed by law in order to meet the special needs of students with school attendance or school behavior problems. (*Education Code 48320 -48324.*)

For a student reported as a habitual truant, referral may be made to the SARB which has the option of filing an application for petition with the El Dorado County Probation Department, or a complaint may be filed against the parent/guardian in the Justice Court.

The Superintendent or designee shall gather the information necessary to comply with Education Code 48273 relating to truants. The Superintendent or designee shall gather and transmit to the County Superintendent of Schools the number of referrals and types of referrals made to the school attendance review board and the number of requests for petitions made to the juvenile court. (*Education Code 48273*)

For purposes of the CalWORKS program, a student shall be determined to be “regularly attending school” until he/she has been referred to SARB. SARB has the authority to sanction CalWORKS funds and/or to refer the case to the county District Attorney.

(*cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes*)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 1740 Employment of personnel to supervise attendance (county superintendent)*
- 2550-2558.6 Computation of revenue limits*
- 37201 School month*
- 37223 Weekend classes*
- 41601 Reports of average daily attendance*
- 42238-42250.1 Apportionments*
- 46000 Records (attendance)*
- 46010-46014 Absences*
- 46100-46119 Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools*

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES (continued)

BP 5113

- 46140-46147 Attendance in junior high and high schools*
- 48200 -48208 Children between ages of 6 and 18 years (compulsory full-time attendance)*
- 48210-48216 Exclusions from attendance*
- 48240-48246 Supervisors of attendance*
- 48260-48273 Truants*
- 48292 Filing complaint against parent*
- 48320-48324 School Attendance Review Boards*
- 48340-48341 Improvement of pupil attendance*
- 49067 Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade*

ELECTIONS CODE

- 12302 Student participation on precinct boards*

FAMILY CODE

- 6920-6929 Consent by minor*

VEHICLE CODE

- 13202.7 Driving privileges; minors; suspension or delay for habitual truancy*

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

- 601-601.4 Habitually truant minors*
- 11253.5 Compulsory school attendance*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 306 Explanation of absence*
- 420 -421 Record of verification of absence due to illness and other causes*

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

- 66 Ops. Cal Atty. Gen 245, 249 (1983)*

COURT DECISIONS

- American Academy of Pediatrics et al v. Lungren et al (1997) 16 Cal. 4th 307*

Management Resources:

CDE MANAGEMENT ADVISORIES

- 0114.98 School Attendance and CalWORKS, Management Bulletin 98-01*

CSBA ADVISORIES

- 0520.97 Welfare Reform and Requirements for School Attendance*

WEB SITES

- CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>