

Policies and Regulations

School Board of the City of Virginia Beach
Policy 5-17

STUDENTS

Absences/Truancy/Parental Notification

A. Absences

1. Generally

Students of school age shall attend their assigned schools during school hours in accordance with state law. Students are considered absent if they are not present on days that school is in session as determined by the School Board approved calendar or during make-up days determined by the Superintendent or School Board. The superintendent through the principals shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of attendance and for closely monitoring all excused and unexcused absences.

2. Excused Absences

a. Documented absences are defined as absences for personal illness, serious illness or death in the family, exposure to contagious disease, extremely inclement weather, school-sponsored activity or observance of a recognized religious holiday. The parent or legal guardian will provide written notice to the school of the reason for the absence or tardiness.

b. Preapproved absences are defined as absences for cause and absences that occur with the full knowledge and consent of the parents/legal guardian. The principal, at his/her discretion, may accept as valid the reasons for these absences.

c. Other verifiable reasons may be deemed excused at the discretion of the principal.

B. Truancy

Truancy is defined as the absence of a student for other than a legitimately recognized reason for all or part of a day when school is in session. The Ssuperintendent or designee shall develop regulations for monitoring truant students and may establish reasonable disciplinary measures based upon the frequency of truancy and the age of the student.

C. Notification of Parents of Absent Students

As required by state law and regulation, each principal or his/her designee shall make a reasonable effort to see that parents/legal guardians of each student be called when the student is absent. Parents/legal guardians will provide a number to be called. This may be the home-main contact phone number, work number, or emergency contact relative's number.

Legal Reference:

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-253.13:7, as amended. Standard 7. Policy manual.

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-258, as amended. Appointment of attendance officers; notification when pupil fails to report to school.

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-259, as amended. Teachers to keep daily attendance records.

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-260, as amended. Report of children enrolled and not enrolled.

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-261, as amended. Division Superintendent to make list of children not enrolled; duties of attendance officer.

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-262, as amended. Complaint to court when parent fails to comply with law.

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-267, as amended. Proceedings against habitually absent child.

Adopted by School Board: October 21, 1969

Amended by School Board: February 15, 1977

Amended by School Board: August 15, 1978

Amended by School Board: August 4, 1983

Amended by School Board: August 21, 1990

Amended by School Board: July 16, 1991

Amended by School Board: July 13, 1993 (Effective August 14, 1993)

Amended by School Board: June 20, 1995

Amended by School Board: August 21, 2001

Amended by School Board: August 28, 2018

APPROVED AS TO
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY


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