

**TRUANCY**

To improve student attendance, the Superintendent or designee shall implement positive steps to identify the reasons for a student's unexcused absences and to help resolve the problems caused by truancy. Such strategies shall focus on early intervention and may include, but not be limited to, communication with parents/guardians and the use of student study teams.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall cooperate with other agencies within the community to meet the needs of students who have serious school attendance or behavior problems and to maintain a continuing inventory of community resources, including alternative programs.

Habitually truant students may be referred to a school attendance review board, a truancy mediation program operated by the county's district attorney or probation officer, and/or juvenile court in accordance with law.

For purposes of California's welfare system (CalWORKS), a student shall be determined to be regularly attending school unless he/she has been referred to the county district attorney or probation office pursuant to Education Code 48263.

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

## TRUANCY (continued)

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

1740 *Employment of personnel to supervise attendance (county superintendent)*

37223 *Weekend classes*

41601 *Reports of average daily attendance*

46000 *Records (attendance)*

46010-46014 *Absences*

46110-46119 *Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools*

46140-46147 *Attendance in junior high and high schools*

48200-48208 *Children ages 6-18 (compulsory full-time attendance)*

48240-48246 *Supervisors of attendance*

48260-48273 *Truants*

48290-48296 *Failure to comply; complaints against parents*

48320-48324 *School attendance review boards*

48340-48341 *Improvement of student attendance*

49067 *Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade*

#### 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)

### *Management Resources:*

#### CDE MANAGEMENT ADVISORIES

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

#### CDE PUBLICATIONS

*School Attendance Review Board Handbook, 1995*

#### CSBA ADVISORIES

0520.97 *Welfare Reform and Requirements for School Attendance*

#### WEB SITES

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

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

**TRUANCY**

An attendance supervisor or designee, peace officer, or school administrator or designee may arrest or assume temporary custody, during school hours, of any minor student found away from his/her home who is absent from school without a valid excuse. Any person so arresting or assuming temporary custody shall deliver the student and make reports in accordance with Education Code 48265 and 48266. (Education Code 48264)

Upon receiving a complaint from any person that a parent/guardian has violated the state compulsory education laws contained in Education Code 48200-48341, the Superintendent or designee shall make a full and impartial investigation of all charges. If it appears upon investigation that the parent/guardian has violated these laws, the Superintendent or designee shall take steps appropriate under the law to ensure that the student is no longer truant. (Education Code 48290, 48291, 48292)

**Reports**

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)