

STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES (EXCEPT FOR TRUANT, SUSPENDED AND/OR EXPELLED STUDENTS)

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (the Board) believes that one criterion of a student's success in school is regular and punctual attendance. Frequent and chronic absences lead to poor academic work, lack of social development and possible academic failure. Regular attendance is of utmost importance for school interest, social adjustment, and scholastic achievement. No single factor may interfere with a student's progress more than frequent and chronic absenteeism. Students, who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades, enjoy school more and are more employable after leaving school.

For at least these reasons, the Board believes that a student must satisfy two basic requirements in order to earn full class credit: (1) satisfy all academic requirements for each grade level and course, and (2) exhibit attendance habits as stated in this policy. According to Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) 22-33-104 (4)(a), the provisions of this policy shall be applicable to all students enrolled in Colorado Springs School District 11 (the District) schools, including students who are above or below the age of compulsory attendance as required by law. Furthermore, according to state law, it is the obligation of every parent/guardian to ensure that every child K-12, under his or her care and supervision receives adequate education and training. It is the obligation of every parent/guardian for every student K-12, to notify school officials of changes in phone numbers, addresses, and contact information as soon as possible.

To minimize the effects of absenteeism, parents/guardians should limit appointments and other non-school related activities to outside school hours. When appointments must be made during school hours, or whenever a student must be absent from school for any portion of the school day, it will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify school officials in writing or by telephone stating the reason for their child's absence.

When a parent/guardian fails to notify the school of their child's absence, the absence will be recorded as unexcused.

Daily attendance for each student shall be kept in accordance with guidelines outlined in Colorado Revised Statute 22-33-104 and in accordance with protocols outlined by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and with Board regulation JH-R.

It is the responsibility of the student and/or parent/guardian to request, access and/or obtain make-up work assignments. Make-up work assignments shall be provided for any class in which a student has an excused absence. A student will receive full credit for work missed as the result of an excused absence.

Students and parents/guardians may petition the Superintendent or designee for exceptions to this policy provided that no exception shall be sustained if the student fails to abide by all requirements imposed by the Superintendent as conditions for granting any such exception.

Adopted: July 12, 1978
Revised: March 10, 1982
Revised: August 8, 1984

Revised: May 22, 1985
Revised: July 23, 1986
Revised: June 1988
Revised: December 1994
Revised: September 1996
Revised: October 1996
Revised: February 22, 2012
Revised: June 14, 2017
Reviewed: September 23, 2020

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-33-107
C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(n)
C.R.S. 22-33-101 et seq. (School Attendance Law of 1963)
1 CCR 301-78 – Standardized Calculation for Counting Student
Attendance and Truancy
Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

CROSS REFS.: IC/ICA, School Year/School Calendar
JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages
JH-R-1, Student Absences and Excuses – Regulation
JH-R-2, Online School Student Participation and Absences
JHB, Truancy
JK, Student Discipline
JKD/JKE, Student Suspension/Expulsion Denial of Admissions
JLIB, Closed Campus/Student Dismissal Precautions