

CAMBRIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy

Policy 5113

Adopted: August 13, 2002

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STUDENTS Pupil Absences and Excuses

The state attendance laws require regular school attendance and punctuality with both the school and the parents having a responsibility for enforcing these laws. It has been well demonstrated that regular attendance is a key factor in the success a student achieves at school. The state law also requires that the school keep an accurate record of each student's attendance. A student should not be absent from school without the parents' knowledge and consent and students will be allowed to be absent from school only for health reasons or in the case of a family emergency. Verification of absence can be verbal or written. (Ed. Code 46012) (CA Admin. Code 306)

The Superintendent shall establish such procedures as deemed necessary to determine the causes of habitual truancy, including medical verification for excessive absence, and cooperate with other private and governmental agencies in correcting the causes thereof. (State Dept. of Education - Attendance Accounting in California Public Schools).

Notwithstanding Education Code 48200, a pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:

- A. Due to his/her illness
- B. Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer
- C. For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometry, or chiropractic services rendered
- D. For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of his/her immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside California.
- E. For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at religious retreats, or attendance at an employment conference, when the pupil's absence has been requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.
- F. A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed (during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory

completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefor. The teacher of any class from which a pupil is absent shall determine the tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not the necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence).

- G. For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed four hours per semester.
- H. Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state apportionment payments.
- I. "Immediate family," as used in this section means the mother, father, sister, brother, grandmother, grandfather or any relative living in the immediate household of the pupil.
- J. Students shall not be absent from school without their parents'/guardians' knowledge or consent except in cases of medical emergency or confidential medical appointment.'
- K. At the beginning of each academic year, notification shall be sent to the parents/guardians of all students in grades 7 - 8, informing them that school authorities may excuse any student from school to obtain confidential medical service without the consent of the student's parent/guardian. (Education Code 46010.1)