

## **Code No. 501.9 STUDENT ABSENCES - EXCUSED**

Regular attendance by students is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students will attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center.

Student absences approved by the principal are excused absences. Excused absences will count as days in attendance for purposes of the truancy law. These absences include, but are not limited to, family vacation, medical reasons, illness, medical or dental appointment, death or serious illness in family, family emergencies, work, college visitations and funeral.

Students whose absences are approved will make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed schoolwork. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate a procedure with the student's teacher to complete the work missed.

Students who wish to participate in school-sponsored activities and/or practices must attend school the full day of school the day of the activity unless the principal for the student to be absent has given permission.

It is the responsibility of the parent to notify the student's attendance center as soon as the parent knows the student will not be attending school on that day. The principal may request evidence or written verification of the student's reason for absence.

Work release will be granted the first, seventh and eighth periods to high school students in good standing providing they do not have a credit course.

All students, k-12, will eat noon meals at the school. An exception can be granted by the principal if, for health reasons, the student must eat at home. A doctor's statement is required.

Students who do not abide by the attendance regulations will have privileges canceled and/or will be subject to discipline procedure under Policy 503 Student Discipline.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference:

Iowa Code §§ 294.4 ;299 (2003).

281 I.A.C. 12.2(4) .

Cross Reference:

501 Student Attendance

503 Student Discipline

504 Student Activities

506 Student Records

**First Reading: December 18, 2017**

**Second Reading: January 16, 2018**