



If any student's Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan conflicts with this policy, the requirements of the student's IEP or 504 Plan take precedence.

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

Parent/Student Responsibility: It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to see that the student is in attendance at school. The parent/guardian is to notify the school attendance office by telephone when the student is absent.

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| Center Valley | (479) 968-4540 |
| Crawford | (479) 968-4677 |
| Dwight | (479) 968-3967 |
| London | (479) 293-4241 |
| Oakland Heights | (479) 968-2084 |
| Sequoyah | (479) 968-2134 |

School Responsibility: It is the responsibility of the school to make a reasonable effort to notify the parent when the student is absent from school. Forms of notification will be sent through school messenger and letter.

When a child is absent from school, it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to notify the school office by note or phone **within 24 hours** or one school day, as to the reason.

In recognition of the need for students to regularly attend school, the district's policy governing student absences is as follows.

Students shall not be absent as defined in this policy more than ten (10) days in a year. When a student has five (5) absences, his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco

parentis shall be notified that the student has missed half the allowable days for the year. Notification shall be by telephone or in writing.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly's intention that a student having excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Therefore, at any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of unexcused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, legal guardian, person with lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's unexcused absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student's parent; legal guardian; person having lawful control of the student; or person standing in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator's or designee.

Cross References: 4.8 – MAKE-UP WORK, 4.57 – IMMUNIZATIONS, 5.11 – DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES
Legal References A.C.A. § 6-4-302, A.C.A. § 6-18-107, A.C.A. § 6-18-209, A.C.A. § 6-18-220, A.C.A. § 6-18-222, A.C.A. § 6-18-229, A.C.A. § 6-18-231, A.C.A. § 6-18-507(g), A.C.A. § 6-18-702, A.C.A. § 7-4-116, A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f), A.C.A. § 27-16-701, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning
Former Policy: 00.11
Adopted: 7/16/85 (Combined JBDA, JD, JDA, JDA-2, JDD-2, JDE, JKA, JKB, JR, JR-2)
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Revised: 12/19/1989, 4/22/1991, 7/16/1991, 4/19/1994, 1/16/1996, 2/20/1996, 5/21/1996, 7/20/1999, 4/17/2001, 7/17/2001, 6/21/2005, 7/01/2009, 8/23/2011, 11/19/2012, 8/20/2013, 5/19/2015, 6/18/2019