

# PIONEER PLEASANT VALE ATTENDANCE POLICY

## REVISED 8-5-2020

The Pioneer Pleasant Vale Board of Education believes that attendance in regularly scheduled classes is a key factor in student achievement. However, it is important for those students who are ill to stay at home when sick. Students who have a fever or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit should not be at school or school activities. The board recognizes, however, that the co-curricular program of the school also has educational benefit. Therefore, it shall be the policy of this board to minimize absenteeism from regular classes while providing students the opportunity to participate in co-curricular activities.

In accordance with the policy of the board of education, each student in High School and Junior High School is required to attend each class a minimum of 90% of the time in order to receive credit for that class.

### ABSENCES

Excused absence will be granted for the following reasons:

1. Personal or family illnesses in the home
2. Medical appointments
3. Legal matters, including service on a grand, multicounty grand, or petit jury \*
4. Extenuating circumstances deemed necessary by the principal
5. Observance of holidays required by student's religious affiliation.

Schools are required by state law to keep accurate records of attendance and the reasons for absences. Students will not be excused from school once they arrive unless a parent contacts the school or picks up the student. A student who misses school for any reason other than a school-sponsored activity must be excused by the student's parent either in person or by telephone. It is the responsibility of the parent to notify the school within 24 hours if a child is to be absent for one of the above reasons. Notes will not be accepted for excuses. The school will contact those students' parents who do not call. The student may promptly make up all work missed without penalty. It is the responsibility of the student, on the day of return, to make arrangements to see that the work is made up. Student absences due to a severe, chronic, or life-threatening physical or mental illness, injury, or trauma will be exempted from inclusion in the calculation of the chronic absenteeism indicator of the applicable school site so long as the determination of eligibility is made by the district's medical exemption review committee. The district's medical exemption review committee will be designated by the superintendent on a yearly basis and shall report student absences that are medically exempt to the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) Office of Accountability.

A student will not be considered absent from school if:

1. They are not physically present at school but are completing work in distance learning program or a virtual online program approved by the school district, and are meeting the following attendance requirements:
  - a. The student has completed instructional activities for no less than ninety (90%) of the time that services were provided in a virtual or distance learning format.

Instructional activities may include online logins to curriculum or programs, offline activities, completed assignments, testing, face-to-face communications or meetings with school personnel via teleconference, videoconference, email, text, or phone.

b. The student is on pace on-time completion of the course as required by the school district.

c. The student has completed instructional activities within the time that services were provided in a virtual or distance learning format during the academic year;  
or

2. They have a medical condition that incapacitates the student and precludes them from participating in instruction in a traditional school setting and the student is able to progress in instruction via alternative education delivery methods approved by the local board of education

### School Activity

1. The student will be allowed to be absent from the classroom for a maximum of ten days per year to participate in activities sponsored by the school.

2. The student will be allowed to make up any work missed while participating at a rate of one day for each day absent.

### Unexcused Absence

This is any absence that does not fall within one of the above categories. No make-up work will be allowed. 10 unexcused absences will result in that student not receiving credit in that class for the semester.

### Truancy

A student is considered truant when absent from the classroom without the knowledge of either the school or the parent. Class work cannot be made up. Such absences can lead to suspension from school if persistent or of such a nature as to affect the discipline of the school.

### Tardies

1. A student is tardy who is not in the student's seat when the bell to begin the period sounds.

2. A student who is more than 10 minutes late is counted absent for the period.

3. Each three (3) tardies will constitute an unexcused absence from that class.

Any student who exceeds the limit may appeal to the board of education for reinstatement of credit. Consideration will be given as to the reason for the absences as well as to the attempts by parents to minimize the absenteeism.

### Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absentee means a student who is absent 10 percent or more of the school days in the school year exclusive of a medical condition, when the total number of days the student is absent is divided by the total number of days the student is enrolled and schools was actually taught in the regular schools of the district, exclusive of Saturdays and Sundays. When a student is identified as a chronic absentee, the Superintendent or designee shall communicate with the student and his/her parents/guardians to determine the reason(s) for the excessive absences, ensure the student and parents/guardians are aware of the adverse consequences of poor attendance, and jointly develop a plan for improving the student's school attendance.

A significant medical condition means a severe, chronic, or life-threatening physical or mental illness, infection, injury, disease, or emotional trauma. Any COVID-19 related absences due to a child's medical needs will be considered a significant medical condition.

**\* REFERENCE: 38 O.S. §37**