### 4.7.3 Attendance-Junior High and High School

I. Excessive Absences:
A. Nine (9) or more absences in a semester will be considered excessive.
B. Students who accumulate more than eight (8) absences in a class for the semester will not be eligible for credit in that class.
C. Denial of credit may affect promotion and/or graduation of the individual student.
D. The Benton or Washington County Juvenile Courts will be notified of all absences in which the student exceeds the eight (8) absence limit unless the student is participating in an attendance recovery program or an alternative program.
II. Classification of Absences:
A. The following classification of absences will count toward the eight (8) day limit in which credit for the course will be denied:

1. Regular School Absences:

A regular school absence is defined as any time the student is not present in class excluding truancies and the types of absences identified in Section
II.B. of this policy. The student will be able to make up work missed due to his/her absence from school if the request for make up is made by the student the day he/she returns to school. The teacher will determine the timeline for student make-up.

## 2. Truancy:

A truancy is defined as any time a student is absent from school without the knowledge of the parent/guardian. This may include anytime the student is not in his/her assigned class during the school day.
B. The following classification of absences will not count toward the eight (8) day limit in which credit for the course or promotion will be denied.

## 1. Campus Activity:

School sponsored field trips, assemblies, contests, or any other school activity as determined by the building principal.

## 2. Medical:

Student absences due to the directive of the student's medical doctor or doctor/dental appointments. Doctor/Dental appointments must indicate the day and time the student was seen in the doctor/dental office.
Appropriate documentation from doctor/dental office must be submitted to the attendance office.
3. Milit ary

Student absences due to military deployment on leave from active duty of a parent or legal guardian.

## 4. Legal:

Student absences due to court or legal appointments. Court/legal appointments must indicate the day and time the student was seen at court or at the attorney's office. Appropriate documentation from the court/legal office must be submitted to the attendance office.

## 5. Exceptional Circumstances:

Student absences as due to exceptional circumstances as determined with prior approval of the building principal
6. Suspensions (In-School Suspension [ISS], Out of School Suspension [OSS]):
Student absences due to administrative directive, used as a disciplinary sanction.
a. Students who are assigned to In-School Suspension (ISS) will receive full credit for all make-up work completed in ISS. Absences due to ISS will not count toward the eight (8) day limit.
b. Students who are suspended from school (OSS) will have an opportunity to make up work for the time they were suspended. The time frame for completing this work will
be left to the discretion of the administrator. Absences due to out-of- school suspensions will not count toward the eight (8) day limit.
C. Expulsions:

Students who are expelled from sehool will forfeit all erectits for the duration of the expulsion. Permanent records will be marked as "NC" (no credit) in the semester grade column if the student had passing grades at the time of exputsion and "F" if the student had failing grades at the time of expulsion.
III. Notification to Parents of Student Absences:
A. The Springdale School District has established eight (8) absences per semester as the maximum number allowed per semester. The student's parent/guardian shall be notified when the student has accumulated excessive absences equal to one-half $(1 / 2)$ the total number of absences permitted per semester. Notice shall be by telephone contact by the end of the school day in which the fourth absence occurred or by mail no later than the following school day.
B. Before a student accumulates the maximum number of absences allowed per semester (8), the school administration may at the request of the student or parent/guardian enter into a formalized written agreement with the student and his/her parent or guardian. This agreement will include conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the requirements of the agreement and will be signed by the student, parent/guardian, and a school administrator.
C. When a student is absent the ninth day in a specific class, the attendance office will notify the student and parent/guardian that the student has
violated the attendance policy by accumulating an excessive number of absences. The letter will inform the student and parent/guardian:

- of credit denial for the affected class(es)
- the appeal process for credit to be reconsidered through an attendance recovery program
- student options through an alternative learning program
- notification of the prosecuting attorney and the possibility of a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) plus court costs
- name and phone number of a school official to contact for further information.
IV. Attendance Recovery:
A. Students may make up the excessive absences through an attendance recovery program to regain credit status. A student wishing to make up his or her excessive absences through one of these programs may apply to do so through the attendance office. Such programs may consist of Saturday School, before school sessions, after school sessions, noon sessions, etc. Make up time will be hour for hour. The length of an instructional school day is six (6) hours. Transportation is not provided to and from attendance recovery programs. The assistant principal for attendance will determine eligibility and guidelines for make-up times.
B. Students who do not participate in an attendance recovery program must remain in the class in which credit is denied and do the assigned work for the remainder of the semester unless he or she elects and is admitted to an alternative learning program.
C. Students who accumulate more than eight (8) absences in a class for the semester and do not participate in an attendance recovery program will receive one of two grades for the semester:

1. "NC" (no credit) if the student held a passing grade at the time of exceeding the maximum number of absences or,
2. "F" if the student did not hold a passing grade at the time of exceeding the maximum number of absences.
V. Financial Hardship as a Basis for Abbreviated Schedule of Classes:
A. A high school student who would experience proven financial hardships if required to attend a full school day ( 360 minutes) may present his/her case to the school administration in a request for an abbreviated schedule of classes. (NOTE: financial hardship means harm or suffering caused by a student's inability to obtain or provide basic life necessities of food, clothes, and shelter for the student of the student's family.

Date Adopted: 6/14/22

