

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD POLICY NO. 5113

ADOPTED: 07/28/14

CLASSIFICATION: Students

REVISED: 08/28/23

SUBJECT: Absences and Excuses

The County Superintendent and the County Board believe that regular attendance plays an important role in student achievement. The Ventura County Office of Education shall work with parents/guardians and students to ensure compliance with all state attendance laws, and to correct problems of chronic absence or truancy.

Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies, and justifiable personal reasons, as specified in Education Code 48205 and any policies, procedures, or measures implemented by the County Superintendent to promote student attendance and/or minimize student absence.

Student absence for religious instruction or participation in religious exercises away from school property may be considered excused in accordance with Education Code 46014.

Students shall not be absent from school without their parent/guardians' knowledge or consent except in cases of medical emergency or, as authorized pursuant to Education Code 46010.1, for a confidential medical appointment.

Inasmuch as school attendance and class participation are integral to students' learning experiences, parents/guardians and students shall be encouraged to schedule medical or other appointments during non-school hours.

The County Board shall, by resolution entered into its minutes, approve reasonable methods that may be used to verify student absences due to illness or quarantine, based on the recommendation of the County Superintendent.

Parent/guardian and/or student notifications related to student absences shall be provided in accordance with law and as specified by the County Superintendent or designee.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1740	Employment of personnel to supervise attendance
37201	School month
37223	Weekend classes
41601	Reports of average daily attendance
42238-42250.1	Apportionments

46000	Attendance records
46010-46014	Absences
46110-46119	Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools
46140-46147	Attendance in junior high and high schools
48200-48208	Children ages 6-18; compulsory full-time attendance
48210-48216	Exclusions from attendance
48225.5	Work permit; excused absence; entertainment or allied industries; participation in not-for-profit performing arts organization
48240-48246	Supervisors of Attendance
48260-48273	Truants
48292	Filing complaint against parent
48320-48324	School attendance review boards
48340-48341	Improvement of school attendance
48980	Parent/Guardian notifications
49067	Unexcused absence as cause of failing grade
49701	Provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children

ELECTIONS CODE

12302	Student participation on precinct boards
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FAMILY CODE

6920-6929	Consent by minor for medical treatment
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WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

601-601.5	Habitually truant minors
11253.5	Compulsory school attendance

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

306	Explanation of Absence
420-421	Record of verification of absence due to illness and other causes

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

87 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 168 (2004)
66 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 244 (1983)

COURT DECISION

American Academy of Pediatrics et al v. Lungren et al (1997) 16 Cal.4th 307