



Book	Policy Manual
Section	000 Local Board Procedures
Title	Authority and Powers
Code	002
Status	Policy Committee Review
Adopted	November 23, 2020
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Authority

The authority to establish, equip, furnish, operate and maintain the public schools of Corry Area School District is vested in the Board of School Directors, which is a body corporate and is constituted and governed by Title 24 of the Pennsylvania Statutes, the Public School Code of 1949 as amended, Article III of the Pennsylvania Constitution and applicable federal and state laws and regulations. [1][2][3][4][5][6][7][8]

Powers

The Board shall establish such schools as are required for the education of every student residing in Corry Area School District between the ages of six (6) and twenty-one (21) years who may attend school; shall equip, furnish, operate, and maintain the schools; shall adopt and enforce rules and regulations for the management of school affairs and the conduct and deportment of employees and students; and shall levy and collect taxes as may be necessary, in addition to the annual state appropriation, for the exercise of aforesaid powers. [2][4][5][6][7][8][9][10][11][12][13][14][15]

The Board shall act as the general agent of the residents of the school district in matters of public education. It shall establish educational goals and academic standards for district schools and govern an educational program designed to meet those goals and standards and to support student achievement. The Board shall be responsible for establishing, maintaining and evaluating the educational programs in district schools, and for enforcing mandatory laws and regulations. [3][16][17]

The Board, in accordance with its statutory mandate, shall adopt Board procedures for its own operation, and policies for the guidance of the Superintendent in the operation of the school district. Board procedures and policies shall be consistent with law, have a rational

and substantial relationship to a legitimate purpose of the Board, and be directed towards the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public education in this district.[9][18]

The powers of the Board of School Directors are not vested in the individual Board member. No such individual is authorized to act on behalf of the Board to carry out any of the Board's authorized powers, except for those acts stated in law.[3]

Legal

1. PA Const. Art. III Sec. 14

2. 24 P.S. 211

3. 24 P.S. 301

4. 24 P.S. 501

5. 24 P.S. 502

6. 24 P.S. 503

7. 24 P.S. 507

8. 24 P.S. 510

9. 24 P.S. 407

10. 24 P.S. 511

11. 24 P.S. 801

12. 24 P.S. 803

13. 24 P.S. 1301

14. 24 P.S. 1302

15. 24 P.S. 1411

16. Pol. 100

17. Pol. 102

18. Pol. 000



Book	Policy Manual
Section	000 Local Board Procedures
Title	Meetings
Code	006
Status	Policy Committee Review
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Parliamentary Authority

All Board meetings shall be conducted in an orderly and business-like manner. Robert's Rules of Order, 12th edition, shall govern the Board in its deliberations in all cases in which it is not inconsistent with law, state regulations or Board procedures.[1][2]

Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board. No business shall be transacted at a meeting without a quorum, but the school directors present at such a meeting may adjourn to another time.[3]

Presiding Officer

The President shall preside at all Board meetings. In the absence, disability or disqualification of the President, the Vice-President shall act instead. If neither person is present, a school director shall be elected President pro tempore by a majority of those present and voting to preside at that meeting only. Where no such majority is achieved on the first vote, a second vote shall be cast for the two (2) candidates who received the greatest number of votes.[4][5][6][7]

Meeting Notifications

Notice of all open Board meetings, including committee meetings and work sessions, shall be given by publication of the date, place, and time of such meetings in the newspaper(s) of general circulation designated by the Board and posting of such notice at the administrative offices of the Board.[8][9]

1. Notice of regular meetings shall be given by publication and posting of a schedule showing the date, place and time of all regular meetings for the calendar year at least three (3) days prior to the time of the first regular meeting.[8][9]

2. Notice of all special meetings shall be given by publication and posting of notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting, except that such notice shall be waived when a special meeting is called to deal with an actual emergency involving a clear and present danger to life or property.[8][9]
3. Notice of all rescheduled meetings shall be given by publication and posting of notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting.[8][9]
4. Notice of all recessed or reconvened meetings shall be given by posting a notice of the place, date and time of the meeting and sending copies of such notice to interested parties.[8]
5. Notice of all open meetings shall be given to any newspaper(s) circulating in Erie, Warren and Crawford County and any radio or television station which so requests. Notice of all open meetings shall be given to any individual who so requests and provides a stamped, addressed envelope for such notification.[9]

Notice of all rescheduled meetings and special meetings shall be given to each school director no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting.[9][10]

Agenda Notifications

The agenda, together with all relevant reports, shall be provided to each school director at least three (3) days before the meeting.

If the agenda includes an item of business related to removal of an officer of the Board, the agenda shall be provided to each school director at least seven (7) days before the meeting.

The district shall publicly post the agenda for all open meetings of the Board or Board committees at which deliberation or official action may take place no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the meeting, as follows:[9]

1. On the district's website.
2. At the location of the meeting.
3. At the district's administrative office.

The posted agenda shall list each matter of agency business that will or may be the subject of deliberation or official action at the meeting.[9]

Agenda Preparation

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent, in cooperation with the Board Secretary and Board President, to prepare an agenda of the items of business anticipated to come before the Board at each open meeting.

Order of Business

The order of business for regular meetings and special meetings called for general purposes shall be as follows, unless altered by the President or a majority of those present and voting:

1. Call to Order
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Moment of Silence
 - c. Pledge of Allegiance
 - d. Approve the Agenda
 - e. Approve the Minutes
2. Communications
3. Business Office
4. New Business
5. Other Matters by the Board Members
 - a. Intermediate Unit Update
6. Other Matters by the Business Manager
7. Other Matters by the Superintendent
8. Adjournment

The order of business for other special meetings shall be determined according to the stated purpose of the special meeting.

Additions to the Agenda

The Board may deliberate or take official action on matters not included in a posted agenda only under the following circumstances:[11]

Emergencies – The matter of business relates to a real or potential emergency involving a clear and present danger to life or property.[8][11]

Business Arising Within Twenty-Four (24) Hours Prior to the Meeting – The matter of business has arisen within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting, is de minimis (minor) in nature, and does not involve the expenditure of funds or entering into a contract or agreement.[11]

Business Raised by Residents or Taxpayers During the Meeting – When a matter of Board business is raised by a resident or taxpayer during a meeting:[11][12]

1. The Board may take official action to refer the matter to staff, if applicable, to conduct research and include on a future Board meeting agenda; or
2. If the matter is de minimis (minor) in nature and does not involve the expenditure of funds or entering into a contract or agreement, the Board may take official action on the matter.

Majority Vote – During a meeting, the Board may add a matter of business to the posted agenda by a majority vote of the school directors present and voting. The reason for adding an item to the posted agenda must be announced at the meeting before conducting the vote. Once announced and approved by majority vote, the Board may take

official action on the item of business. The agenda shall be amended to reflect the new item of business and the amended agenda shall be posted to the district's website and at the administrative office no later than the first business day following the meeting at which the agenda was amended. The unanimous consent procedure may not be used in place of majority vote for this purpose.[11]

The public posting of agenda requirements and rules for adding items to a posted agenda apply to both regular and special open meetings of the Board. These requirements and rules do not apply to:[9][11][13]

1. Conference sessions.
2. Executive sessions.

Regular Meetings

Regular Board meetings shall be open and shall be held at specified places at least once every two (2) months.[2][14]

Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called for special or general purposes and shall be open except when conducted as an executive session for purposes authorized by law.[2][5][10][15]

The President may call a special meeting at any time and shall call a special meeting upon presentation of the written requests of three (3) school directors. Upon the President's failure or refusal to call a special meeting, such meeting may be called at any time by a majority of the school directors.[5]

No business shall be transacted at any special meeting except that named in the call sent to school directors for such special meeting.[10]

Public Participation

At each open Board meeting, prior to official action by the Board, an opportunity shall be provided for public comment in accordance with law and Board procedures and policy.[2][12]

Voting

All motions shall require for adoption a majority vote of those school directors present and voting, except as provided by statute or Board procedures.

All votes on motions and resolutions shall be by voice vote unless an oral roll call vote is requested by the President or another school director.

Special Voting Requirements –

**Indicates actions for which the minutes must reflect how each school director voted.*

1. Actions requiring the unanimous affirmative vote of all members of the Board remaining in office:
 - a. Appoint as Board Secretary a former school director who has resigned, before the expiration of the term for which the member was elected.*[16][17]

- b. Appoint as solicitor a former school director who has resigned, before the expiration of the term for which the director was elected.*[16][17]
2. Actions requiring the affirmative votes of two-thirds of the full membership of the Board:
 - a. Transferring, during the first three (3) months of the fiscal year, budgeted funds set apart or appropriated to a particular item of expenditure.*[17][18][19]
 - b. Adding or increasing appropriations to meet an emergency or catastrophe.*[17][19]
 - c. Hiring as a teacher a former school director who has resigned, before the expiration of the term for which the director was elected.*[16][17]
 - d. Conveying land or buildings to certain charities or other public agencies without following prescribed valuation procedures or with more favorable financing.*[17][20]
 - e. Incurring temporary debt.*[17][19][21]
 - f. Dismissing a tenured professional employee after a hearing.*[17][22]
 - g. Borrowing in anticipation of current revenue.*[17][23]
 - h. Adopting or changing textbooks without the recommendation of the Superintendent.*[17][24]
 3. Actions requiring the affirmative votes of a majority of the full membership of the Board:
 - a. Fixing the length of the school term.*[17]
 - b. Adopting textbooks recommended by the Superintendent.*[17][25]
 - c. Appointing the district Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent(s).*[17][26][27]
 - d. Appointing teachers and principals.*[17]
 - e. Adopting the annual budget.*[17][28]
 - f. Appointing tax collectors and other appointees.*[17][29][30]
 - g. Levying and assessing taxes.*[17][31]
 - h. Purchasing, selling, or condemning land.*[17]
 - i. Locating new buildings or changing the location of old ones.*[17]
 - j. Creating or increasing any indebtedness.*[17]
 - k. Adopting planned instruction.[17][32]
 - l. Establishing additional schools or departments.*[17]

- m. Designating depositories for school funds.*[17][33][34]
- n. Authorizing the transfer of any unencumbered balance, or portion thereof, from one appropriation to another, or from one spending agency to another during the last nine (9) months of the fiscal year.*[17][19]
- o. Entering into contracts of any kind, including contracts for the purchase of fuel or any supplies where the amount involved exceeds \$100 (including items subject to bid requirements).*[17][35]
- p. Fixing salaries or compensation of officers, teachers, or other appointees of the Board.*[17]
- q. Entering into contracts with and making appropriations to the intermediate unit for the district's proportionate share of the cost of services provided or to be provided by the intermediate unit.*[17]
- r. Dismissing, after a hearing, a Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent or non-tenured teacher.*[17][36][37]
- s. Determining the location and amount of any real estate required by the school district for school purposes.*[17][38]
- t. Vacating and abandoning property to which the Board has title.*[17][39]
- u. Appointing a school director to fill a vacancy on the Board.*[17][40]
- v. Calling a special meeting when the President has failed to do so after written request of three (3) members of the Board.[5]
- w. Declaring that a vacancy exists on the Board by reason of the failure or neglect of a school director to qualify.[41]
- x. Adopting, amending or repealing Board procedures and policy.[42]
- y. Approving or denying a charter school application.*[43]
- z. Approving or denying a multiple charter school organization application.*[44]
- aa. Establishing joint schools or departments.*[45]

Abstention from Voting

A school director shall be required to abstain from voting when the issue involves either one of the following:

1. Conflict of interest under the Ethics Act.[46][47][48]

Prior to the vote being taken, the school director shall verbally disclose the nature of the conflict in public, and shall also provide the Board Secretary with a written memorandum stating the nature of the conflict, which shall be attached to the Board minutes as a public record.

Conflict of interest - use by a public official of the authority of their office or any confidential information received through holding public office for the private

pecuniary benefit of the public official, a member of their immediate family or a business with which the public official or a member of their immediate family is associated. The term does not include an action having a de minimis economic impact or which affects to the same degree a class consisting of the general public or a subclass consisting of an industry, occupation or other group which includes the public official, a member of their immediate family or a business with which the public official or a member of their immediate family is associated.[46]

De minimis economic impact – an economic consequence which has an insignificant effect.[46]

Immediate family – parent, spouse, child, brother or sister.[46]

Business with which associated – any business in which the person or a member of the person's immediate family is a director, officer, owner, employee or has a financial interest.[46]

2. Relative recommended for appointment to or dismissal from a teaching position.[22]
[49]

Relative – father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandchild, nephew, niece, first cousin, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, uncle, or aunt.

The Board is encouraged to seek the guidance of the district solicitor or the State Ethics Commission for questions related to conflict of interest.[47][48]

Minutes

The Board shall cause to be made, and shall retain as a permanent record of the district, minutes of all open Board meetings. Said minutes shall be comprehensible and complete and shall show:[50][51]

1. Date, place, and time of the meeting.
2. Names of school directors present.
3. Presiding officer.
4. Substance of all official actions.
5. Actions taken.
6. Recorded votes and a record by individual members of all roll call votes taken.[52]
7. Names of all residents who appeared officially and the subject of their testimony.
8. Any matter added to a posted agenda, including the substance of the matter, the announced reason and the recorded vote, where applicable.[9][11]

The Board Secretary shall provide each school director with a copy of the minutes of the last meeting prior to the next regular meeting.[1]

The minutes of Board meetings shall be approved at the next succeeding meeting and signed by the Board Secretary.[53]

Notations and any tape or audiovisual recordings shall not be the official record of an open Board meeting but may be available for public access, upon request, in accordance with Board policy. Any notations and/or audiovisual recordings of a Board meeting shall be retained and disposed of in accordance with the district's records retention schedule.[1][54][55]

Recess/Reconvene

The Board may at any time recess or reconvene to a reconvened meeting at a specified date and place, upon the majority vote of those present. The reconvened meeting shall immediately take up its business at the point in the agenda where the motion to recess was acted upon. Notice of the reconvened meeting shall be given as provided in Board policy.[8][9][56]

Executive Session

The Board may hold an executive session, which is not an open meeting, before; during; at the conclusion of an open meeting; or at some other time. The presiding officer shall announce the reason for holding the executive session; the announcement can be made at the open meeting prior to or after the executive session.[13][15][57]

The Board may discuss the following matters in executive session:

1. Employment issues.
2. Labor relations.
3. Purchase or lease of real estate.
4. Consultation with an attorney or other professional advisor regarding potential litigation or identifiable complaints that may lead to litigation.
5. Matters that must be conducted in private to protect a lawful privilege or confidentiality.
6. School safety and security, of a nature that if conducted in public, would:[15]
 - a. Be reasonably likely to impair the effectiveness of school safety measures.
 - b. Create a reasonable likelihood of jeopardizing the safety or security of an individual or a school, including a building, public utility, resource, infrastructure, facility or information storage system.

Official actions based on discussions held in executive session shall be taken at an open meeting.

Work Sessions

The Board may meet as a Committee of the Whole in an open meeting to vote on or to discuss issues. Public notice of such meetings shall be made in accordance with Board procedures.[2][56]

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole, not regularly scheduled, may be called at any time by the President; the President shall call such a meeting when requested to do so by school directors. Public notice of the meeting shall be made in accordance with Board

procedures.

The Board Secretary shall provide notice of a meeting of the Committee of the Whole in accordance with Board procedures.[8][9][56]

Committee Meetings

Committee meetings may be called at any time by the committee chairperson or when requested to do so by any member of the committee, with proper public notice.[8][9][56]

A majority of the total membership of a committee shall constitute a quorum.

Unless held as an executive session, standing committee meetings shall be open to the public, other school directors, and the Superintendent.[2]

A majority of the committee or the chairperson may invite employees, consultants or other persons who have special knowledge of an area under discussion.

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 407
2. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 701 et seq
3. 24 P.S. 422
4. 24 P.S. 405
5. 24 P.S. 426
6. 24 P.S. 427
7. 24 P.S. 428
8. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 703
9. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 709
10. 24 P.S. 423
11. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 712.1
12. Pol. 903
13. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 707
14. 24 P.S. 421
15. 24 P.S. 425
16. 24 P.S. 324
17. 24 P.S. 508
18. 24 P.S. 609
19. 24 P.S. 687
20. 24 P.S. 707
21. 24 P.S. 634
22. 24 P.S. 1129
23. 24 P.S. 640
24. 24 P.S. 803
25. Pol. 108

26. 24 P.S. 1071
27. 24 P.S. 1076
28. Pol. 604
29. Pol. 005
30. Pol. 606
31. Pol. 605
32. Pol. 107
33. 24 P.S. 621
34. Pol. 608
35. Pol. 610
36. 24 P.S. 1080
37. 24 P.S. 514
38. 24 P.S. 702
39. 24 P.S. 708
40. 24 P.S. 315
41. Pol. 004
42. Pol. 003
43. 24 P.S. 1717-A
44. 24 P.S. 1729.1-A
45. 24 P.S. 1701
46. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 1102
47. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 1103
48. Pol. 827
49. 24 P.S. 1111
50. 24 P.S. 518
51. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 706
52. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 705
53. 24 P.S. 433
54. Pol. 800
55. Pol. 801
56. Pol. 006
57. 65 Pa. C.S.A. 708
24 P.S. 224
24 P.S. 408
24 P.S. 1075
24 P.S. 1077
65 Pa. C.S.A. 1101 et seq
Pol. 612



Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Eligibility of Nonresident Students
Code	202
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Adopted	September 28, 2020
Last Reviewed	January 26, 2024

Purpose

The Board shall operate district schools for the benefit of students residing in this district who are eligible for attendance.[1][2][3]

Authority

The Board may permit the admission of nonresident students in accordance with law and Board policy.[4][5][6][7][8][9]

The Board reserves the right to verify claims of residency, dependency and guardianship and to remove from school attendance a nonresident student whose claim is invalid.[10]

The Board shall not be responsible for transportation to or from school for any nonresident student residing outside school district boundaries, except in accordance with law and Board policy.[11]

Tuition rates shall be determined annually in accordance with law. Tuition shall be charged monthly, in advance of attendance.[9][12][13]

Guidelines

Nonresident Children Placed in Resident's Home

Any child placed in the home of a district resident by a court or government agency shall be admitted to district schools and shall receive the same benefits and be subject to the same responsibilities as resident students.[6][14]

Residents of Institutions

A child who is living in or assigned to a facility or institution for the care or training of children that is located within this district is not a legal resident of the district by such placement; but the student shall be admitted to district schools, and a charge shall be made for tuition in accordance with law.[7][12][14][15][16][17][18][19][20]

Students Experiencing Educational Instability

The district shall immediately admit students experiencing homelessness, foster care and other forms of educational instability, even if the required documents are unavailable, in accordance with Board policy, law and regulation.[5][11][14]

Children of Active Duty Military Families

Children of active duty military families shall be eligible for enrollment in this district in accordance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, state law and Board policy.[5][8][10][21]

Other Nonresident Students

A nonresident student may be admitted to district schools without payment of tuition where attendance is justified on the grounds that the student lives full-time and not just for the school year with district residents who have assumed legal dependency or guardianship or full residential support of the student.[10][22]

The Board shall require that appropriate legal documentation showing dependency or guardianship or a sworn statement of full residential support be filed with the Board Secretary before an eligible nonresident student may be accepted as a student in district schools. The Board may require a resident to submit additional, reasonable information to substantiate a sworn statement, in accordance with guidelines issued by the PA Department of Education.[10][22]

If information contained in the sworn statement of residential support is found to be false, the student shall be removed from school after notice is given of an opportunity to appeal the student's removal, in accordance with Board policy.[10][23]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations for the enrollment of nonresident students.

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for its approval the admission of qualified nonresident students.

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 501

2. 24 P.S. 502

3. 24 P.S. 503

4. 24 P.S. 1301

5. Pol. 200

6. 24 P.S. 1305

7. 24 P.S. 1306

8. 24 P.S. 1302.1

9. 24 P.S. 1316

10. 24 P.S. 1302

11. Pol. 251

12. 24 P.S. 2561

13. Pol. 607

14. 24 P.S. 1331.1

15. 24 P.S. 1307

16. 24 P.S. 1308

17. 24 P.S. 1309

18. 24 P.S. 1310

19. 24 P.S. 2562

20. 22 PA Code 11.18

21. Pol. 254

22. 22 PA Code 11.19

23. Pol. 906

22 PA Code 11.41

24 P.S. 1306.2

24 P.S. 2503

24 P.S. 7302

Pol. 103

Pol. 103.1

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (MIC3)



Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Attendance
Code	204
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Purpose

The Board recognizes that attendance is an important factor in educational success, and supports a comprehensive approach to identify and address attendance issues.[1]

Authority

The Board requires the attendance of all students during the days and hours that school is in session, except that temporary student absences may be excused by authorized district staff in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, Board policy and administrative regulations.[2][3][4][5][6][7]

Definitions

Compulsory school age shall mean the period of a student's life from the time the student's person in parental relation elects to have the student enter school, which shall be no later than six (6) years of age, until the student reaches eighteen (18) years of age. The term does not include a student who holds a certificate of graduation from a regularly accredited, licensed, registered or approved high school.[8][9]

Habitually truant shall mean six (6) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year by a student subject to compulsory school attendance.[8]

Truant shall mean having incurred three (3) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year by a student subject to compulsory school attendance.[8]

Person in parental relation shall mean a:[8]

1. Custodial biological or adoptive parent.
2. Noncustodial biological or adoptive parent.
3. Guardian of the person of a student.

4. Person with whom a student lives and who is acting in a parental role of a student.

This term shall not include any county agency or person acting as an agent of the county agency in the jurisdiction of a dependent child as defined by law.[10]

School-based or community-based attendance improvement program shall mean a program designed to improve school attendance by seeking to identify and address the underlying reasons for a student's absences. The term may include an educational assignment in an alternative education program, provided the program does not include a program for disruptive youth established pursuant to Article XIX-C of the Pennsylvania Public School Code.[8]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, persons in parental relation and staff about the district's attendance policy by publishing such policy in student handbooks and newsletters, on the district website and through other efficient communication methods.[1][11]

The Superintendent or designee, in coordination with the building principal and Attendance Officer, shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations for the attendance of students which:

1. Govern the maintenance of attendance records in accordance with law.[12][13]
2. Detail the process for submission of requests and excuses for student absences.
3. Detail the process for written notices, School Attendance Improvement Conferences, School Attendance Improvement Plans, and referrals to a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program, the local children and youth agency, or the appropriate magisterial district judge.
4. Clarify the district's responsibility for collaboration with nonpublic schools in the enforcement of compulsory school attendance requirements.
5. Ensure that students legally absent have an opportunity to make up work.

Guidelines

Compulsory School Attendance Requirements

All students of compulsory school age who reside in the district shall be subject to the compulsory school attendance requirements.[2]

A student shall be considered in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board; the student is receiving approved tutorial instruction, or health or therapeutic services; the student is engaged in an approved and properly supervised independent study, work-study or career education program; the student is receiving approved homebound instruction; or the student's placement is instruction in the home.[2][5][14][15][16][17][18][19][20]

The following students shall be excused from the requirements of attendance at district schools, upon request and with the required approval:

1. On certification by a physician or submission of other satisfactory evidence and on approval of the Department of Education, children who are unable to attend school or apply themselves to study for mental, physical or other reasons that preclude regular attendance.[3][4][21]
2. Students enrolled in nonpublic or private schools in which the subjects and activities prescribed by law are taught.[2][22]
3. Students attending college who are also enrolled part-time in district schools.[23]
4. Students attending a home education program or private tutoring in accordance with law.[2][18][24][25][26][27]
5. Students fifteen (15) or sixteen (16) years of age whose enrollment in private trade or business schools has been approved.[2]
6. Students fifteen (15) years of age, as well as students fourteen (14) years of age who have completed the highest elementary grade, engaged in farm work or private domestic service under duly issued permits.[4]
7. Students sixteen (16) years of age regularly engaged in useful and lawful employment during the school session and holding a valid employment certificate. Regularly engaged means thirty-five (35) or more hours per week of employment.[4][15]

Excused/Lawful Absence

For purposes of this policy, the following conditions or situations constitute reasonable cause for absence from school:

1. Illness, including if a student is dismissed by designated district staff during school hours for health-related reasons.[3][6]
2. Obtaining professional health care or therapy service rendered by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts in any state, commonwealth or territory.[3]
3. Quarantine.
4. Family emergency.
5. Recovery from accident.
6. Required court attendance.
7. Death in family.
8. Participation in a project sponsored by a statewide or countywide 4-H, FFA or combined 4-H and FFA group, upon prior written request.[1][3]
9. Participation in a musical performance in conjunction with a national veterans' organization or incorporated unit, as defined in law, for an event or funeral.[3]

- a. The national veterans' organization or incorporated unit must provide the student with a signed excuse, which shall include the date, location, and time of the event or funeral.
 - b. The student shall furnish the signed excuse to the district prior to being excused from school.
10. Observance of a religious holiday observed by a bona fide religious group, upon prior written request from the person in parental relation.[28]
11. Nonschool-sponsored educational tours or trips, if the following conditions are met:
[3][29]
- a. The person in parental relation submits the required documentation for excusal prior to the absence, within the appropriate timeframe.
 - b. The student's participation has been approved by the Superintendent or designee.
 - c. The adult directing and supervising the tour or trip is acceptable to the person in parental relation and the Superintendent.
 - d. Meets criteria as defined by the district.
12. College or postsecondary institution visit, with prior approval and documentation.
13. Other urgent reasons that may reasonably cause a student's absence, as well as circumstances related to homelessness, foster care and other forms of educational instability.[3][6][30]

The district may limit the number and duration of nonschool-sponsored educational tours or trips and college or postsecondary institution visits for which excused absences may be granted to a student during the school year.

Temporary Excusals –

The following students may be temporarily excused from the requirements of attendance at district schools:

1. Students receiving tutorial instruction in a field not offered in the district's curricula from a properly qualified tutor approved by the Superintendent, when the excusal does not interfere with the student's regular program of studies.[2][14][18]
2. Students participating in a religious instruction program, if the following conditions are met:[28][31]
 - a. The person in parental relation submits a written request for excusal. The request shall identify and describe the instruction, and the dates and hours of instruction.
 - b. The student shall not miss more than thirty-six (36) hours per school year in order to attend classes for religious instruction.

- c. Following each absence, the person in parental relation shall submit a statement attesting that the student attended the instruction, and the dates and hours of attendance.

3. School age children unable to attend school upon recommendation of the school physician and a psychiatrist or school psychologist, or both, and with approval of the Secretary of Education.[21]

Parental Notice of Absence –

Absences shall be treated as unexcused until the district receives a written excuse explaining the absence, to be submitted within three (3) days of the absence.

A maximum of ten (10) days of cumulative lawful absences verified by parental notification shall be permitted during a school year. All absences beyond ten (10) cumulative days shall require an excuse from a licensed practitioner of the healing arts.

Unexcused/Unlawful Absence

For purposes of this policy, absences which do not meet the criteria indicated above shall be permanently considered unexcused.

An out-of-school suspension may not be considered an unexcused absence.[8]

Parental Notification –

District staff shall provide prompt notice to the person in parental relation upon each incident of unexcused absence.

Enforcement of Compulsory Attendance Requirements

Student is Truant –

When a student has been absent for three (3) days during the current school year without a lawful excuse, district staff shall provide notice to the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student within ten (10) school days of the student's third unexcused absence.[32]

The notice shall:[32]

1. Be in the mode and language of communication preferred by the person in parental relation;
2. Include a description of the consequences if the student becomes habitually truant; and
3. When transmitted to a person who is not the biological or adoptive parent, also be provided to the student's biological or adoptive parent, if the parent's mailing address is on file with the school and the parent is not precluded from receiving the information by court order.

The notice may include the offer of a School Attendance Improvement Conference.[32]

If the student incurs additional unexcused absences after issuance of the notice and a School Attendance Improvement Conference was not previously held, district staff shall offer a School Attendance Improvement Conference.[32]

School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC) -

District staff shall notify the person in parental relation in writing and by telephone of the date and time of the SAIC.[32]

The purpose of the SAIC is to examine the student's absences and reasons for the absences in an effort to improve attendance with or without additional services.[8]

The following individuals shall be invited to the SAIC:[8]

1. The student.
2. The student's person in parental relation.
3. Other individuals identified by the person in parental relation who may be a resource.
4. Appropriate school personnel.
5. Recommended service providers.

Neither the student nor the person in parental relation shall be required to participate, and the SAIC shall occur even if the person in parental relation declines to participate or fails to attend the scheduled conference.[32]

The outcome of the SAIC shall be documented in a written School Attendance Improvement Plan. The Plan shall be retained in the student's file. A copy of the Plan shall be provided to the person in parental relation, the student and appropriate district staff.
[32]

The district may not take further legal action to address unexcused absences until the scheduled SAIC has been held and the student has incurred six (6) or more days of unexcused absences.[32]

Student is Habitually Truant -

When a student under fifteen (15) years of age is habitually truant, district staff:[33]

1. Shall refer the student to:
 - a. A school-based or community-based attendance improvement program; or
 - b. The local children and youth agency.
2. May file a citation in the office of the appropriate magisterial district judge against the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student.

[33]

When a student fifteen (15) years of age or older is habitually truant, district staff shall:
[33]

1. Refer the student to a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program; or
2. File a citation in the office of the appropriate magisterial district judge against the student or the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student.

District staff may refer a student who is fifteen (15) years of age or older to the local children and youth agency, if the student continues to incur additional unexcused absences after being referred to a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program, or if the student refuses to participate in such program.[33]

Regardless of age, when district staff refer a habitually truant student to the local children and youth agency or file a citation with the appropriate magisterial district judge, district staff shall provide verification that the school held a SAIC.[33]

Filing a Citation –

A citation shall be filed in the office of the appropriate magisterial district judge whose jurisdiction includes the school in which the student is or should be enrolled, against the student or person in parental relation to the student.[34]

Additional citations for subsequent violations of the compulsory school attendance requirements may only be filed against a student or person in parental relation in accordance with the specific provisions of the law.[34]

Special Needs and Accommodations

If a truant or habitually truant student may qualify as a student with a disability, and require special education services or accommodations, the Director of Special Education shall be notified and shall take action to address the student's needs in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy.[16][35][36][37]

For students with disabilities who are truant or habitually truant, the appropriate team shall be notified and shall address the student's needs in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy.[16][35][37]

Discipline

The district shall not expel or impose out-of-school suspension, disciplinary reassignment or transfer for truant behavior.[32]

- Legal
1. 22 PA Code 11.41
 2. 24 P.S. 1327
 3. 24 P.S. 1329
 4. 24 P.S. 1330
 5. 22 PA Code 11.23
 6. 22 PA Code 11.25
 7. 22 PA Code 12.1
 8. 24 P.S. 1326

9. 22 PA Code 11.13

10. 42 Pa. C.S.A. 6302

11. 24 P.S. 510.2

12. 24 P.S. 1332

13. 24 P.S. 1339

14. 22 PA Code 11.22

15. 22 PA Code 11.28

16. Pol. 113

17. Pol. 115

18. Pol. 116

19. Pol. 117

20. Pol. 118

21. 22 PA Code 11.34

22. 22 PA Code 11.32

23. 22 PA Code 11.5

24. 24 P.S. 1327.1

25. 22 PA Code 11.31

26. 22 PA Code 11.31a

27. Pol. 137

28. 22 PA Code 11.21

29. 22 PA Code 11.26

30. Pol. 251

31. 24 P.S. 1546

32. 24 P.S. 1333

33. 24 P.S. 1333.1

34. 24 P.S. 1333.2

35. Pol. 103.1

36. Pol. 113.3

37. Pol. 114

24 P.S. 1333.3

22 PA Code 11.8

22 PA Code 11.24



Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Postgraduate Students
Code	205
Status	Policy Committee Review
Adopted	September 28, 2020
Last Revised	October 3, 2023
Last Reviewed	January 26, 2024

Authority

The Board shall assume no responsibility for making its regular educational program available to district residents who are high school graduates, nor after the end of the term in which a student reaches the age of twenty-one (21) years. The Board shall not be responsible for the continuing education of such residents in any other school district. [1] [2][3]

Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 1301</u>
	<u>2. 22 PA Code 11.12</u>
	<u>3. 22 PA Code 12.1</u>
	<u>22 PA Code 11.13</u>
	<u>22 PA Code 11.14</u>



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