

Student Absences and Excuses**

The Board considers regular school attendance essential for educational success. All students are expected to attend school as required by law and by Board policy.

The principal will be responsible for assessing and acting upon parental requests for students to be excused.

The principal has the authority to excuse students for absences due to illness, educational/occupational interviews, quarantine, bereavement or serious illness in the family, inclement weather, religious instruction or emergencies. Physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, dentists, similar professionals may request permission for students' excused absences, and emergency situations that require the student's absence.

Students may be excused on a limited basis from a particular preplanned classroom activity or from selected portions of the established curriculum on the basis of religious or disability considerations.

A student who is excused must still fulfill the school's requirements.

Each school shall notify a parent or guardian by the end of the school day if their child has an unplanned absence. The notification will be either in person, by telephone or another method identified in writing by the parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian cannot be notified by the above methods, a message shall be left, if possible.

Additionally, the superintendent will develop procedures whereby those students who are considered truant may be subject to the following penalties: detention, suspension¹ and/or ineligibility to participate in athletics or other activities.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 109.056](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)
[ORS 339.030](#)
[ORS 339.055](#)

[ORS 339.065](#)
[ORS 339.071](#)
[ORS 339.420](#)

[OAR 581-021-0046](#)
[OAR 581-021-0050](#)
[OAR 581-023-0006\(11\)](#)

¹The use of out-of-school suspension or expulsion for discipline of a student in the fifth grade or below, is limited to:

1. Nonaccidental conduct causing serious physical harm to a student or employee;
2. When a school administrator determines, based on the administrator's observation or upon a report from an employee, the student's conduct poses a threat to the health or safety of students or employees; or
3. When the suspension or expulsion is required by law.