

SECTION 5 — ATTENDANCE POLICY

ATTENDANCE – The Attendance Policy has been revised consistent with the requirements of Act 138 of 2016. "Attendance" is the presence of a student on days school is in session. "Absence" is the failure of a student to attend school on those days, half days and hours school is in session. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that school is in session, except when the absence is "excused" as set forth below.

A. POLICY STATEMENT: The Board of Directors of Erie's Public Schools requires that school-aged students enrolled in the schools of this District attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the state. The educational program offered by this District is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. The regular contact of students with one another in the classroom and participation in well-planned instructional activity under the tutelage of a competent teacher are vital to this purpose. The Board believes there is an educational nexus between classroom presence and achievement and that class attendance is relevant to the pupils' overall performance, achievement and academic success. It is the policy of the Board that pupils who are "truant" or have missed class due to unexcused days shall receive no credit for work or tests missed on the unexcused days , provided, however, the Administration in each building has the discretion to award credit to individual students who are involved in the truancy system and, as a result, have participated in "extra-help" nights at school.

B. DEFINITIONS:

- 1. "Citation" shall mean a nontraffic citation or private criminal complaint.
- 2. "Compulsory school age" shall mean the period of a child's life from the time the child's parents elect to have the child enter school and which shall be no later than eight (8) years of age until the child reaches seventeen (17) years of age. The term does not include a child who holds a certificate of graduation from a regularly accredited, licensed, registered or approved high school. According to the Pennsylvania State Supreme Court in Commonwealth v. Kerstetter, 2014 PA LEXIS 1500 (Pa., June 16, 2014), although parents are not required to enroll their child in kindergarten, once the election to enroll a child in school (including kindergarten) is made, the child is subject to the School Code's compulsory attendance requirements.
- 3. "Court" shall mean a magisterial district court or a court of common pleas.
- 4. "Excused absence" shall mean an absence from school which is permitted under this Attendance Policy. Excused absences include:
 - a. Illness If a student is dismissed from school during school hours for health-related reasons by a certified school nurse, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse or a school administrator or other school official, the student's absence from school shall be deemed excused.

If a student is unable to attend school due to illness, the student shall submit to the District a written excuse from either his/her parent or licensed practitioner of the healing arts within three (3) school days after the absence. Failure to submit a written excuse within this time frame shall result in the absence being recorded as unexcused.

If a student accumulates more than ten (10) absences due to illness during one school year, the school administration shall require the student to provide a medical statement or excuse from a licensed practitioner of the healing arts for every subsequent absence due to illness. Failure to provide the requested medical excuse shall result in such absence being classified as unexcused. The District will send a notification to the parent/guardian/person in parental relation after a student has accumulated eight (8) absences due to illness during the school year, warning them of the implementation of the ten day rule.

b. Death in the family, to allow for student to attend funeral or burial services.

- c. Religious holidays and religious instruction (with religious instruction limited to a total of not more than 36 hours per school year).
- d. Emergency school administrators will determine whether a specific circumstance qualifies as an "emergency" on a case-by-case basis.
- e. Delay or absence of school bus.
- f. Educational tour/trip/high school shadow.
- g. Family trips Special permission is required for students to take family trips during the school year. At least two (2) weeks prior to the trip, the parent/legal guardian must submit a written request to the Superintendent of the District. The Superintendent will review the student's records (attendance, disciplinary and academic). Students who have a history of attendance issues, discipline issues and/or who are in academic jeopardy may not receive approval from the Superintendent to take a family trip during the school year. The school administration shall only approve one family trip per student per year and the duration of that trip may not exceed five (5) school days. Family trips that are not preapproved by the Superintendent shall result in the student's absence being recorded as unexcused.

h. Court appearance.

- i. Dental, medical and therapy appointments Students who need to leave school for the purpose of obtaining professional health care, dental care or therapy service rendered by licensed practitioners shall submit a note from the parent and/or an appointment card from the doctor/dentist/therapist to the school office prior to the appointment. Students/parents are asked to schedule medical appointments after school as much as possible. The student must obtain written proof from the doctor/dentist that he/she appeared at the appointment, which must be returned to the Attendance Office upon the student's return to school, or the absence from school will be considered UNEXCUSED. Students must come to school prior and return to school after their scheduled appointment. Leaving unreasonably early or returning unreasonably late from these appointments will be considered unexcused absences from school.
- j. Weather emergency If the Superintendent orders the schools closed, parents are not required to send a written excuse for their child's absence on that day. If the Superintendent makes a public announcement that parents may use their discretion whether to send their child to school, parents may make the determination whether to have their child attend school. If the child misses school on an official "parent discretion day," the parent must send a written excuse regarding that weather-related absence with their child upon the child's return to school. Failure to send a written excuse in these circumstances will result in the absence recorded as unexcused.
- k. Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair Act trips as required by Section 1329(b) of the Pennsylvania Public School Code, students may be excused for participation in a project sponsored by an organization that is eligible to apply for a grant under the Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair Act, 3 P.S. §1505.
- NOTE: Family vacations are no longer considered excused absences. Days a student misses school due to going on a family vacation will be considered unexcused absences.

High School Only:

College visitation.

Junior/Senior excusal for interviews – When students have a written invitation or appointment to participate in a job interview, college admission, nurses' training, trade or technical school as well as other post high school plans, they may be excused for a total of three (3) days during their Junior/Senior year. The student is to obtain a permission slip from the appropriate guidance counselor and have this completed before the day he/she is to be excused. After the appropriate counselor gives permission, the counselor sends a copy of the same to the attendance secretary. For early morning appointments, the request from the parent may be brought the day <u>prior</u> to the appointment.

5. "Habitually truant" shall mean six (6) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year by a student who is of compulsory school age.

- 6. "Offense" shall mean each citation filed by the District with the Court for a violation of the requirement for compulsory school attendance requirements regardless of the number of unexcused absences alleged in the citation.
- 7. "Person in parental relation" shall mean a:
 - a. Custodial biological or adoptive parent.
 - b. Noncustodial biological or adoptive parent.
 - c. Guardian of the person of a child.
 - d. Person with whom a child lives and who is acting in a parental role of a child.

This definition shall not include any county agency or person acting as an agent of the county agency in the jurisdiction of a dependent child defined under 42 Pa.C.S. § 6302.

- 8. "School" shall mean the educational entity in which the child is enrolled.
- 9. "School attendance improvement conference" shall mean a conference where the child's absences and reasons for the absences are examined in an effort to improve attendance, with or without additional services. A "School Attendance Improvement Plan" will be drafted at this conference. The following individuals shall be invited to the school attendance improvement conference:
 - a) The child.
 - b) The child's person in parental relation.
 - c) Other individuals identified by the person in parental relation who may be a resource.
 - d) Appropriate school personnel.
 - e) Recommended service providers.
- 10. "School attendance improvement plan" shall mean a plan developed during the school attendance improvement conference, the purpose of which will be to identify the factors causing the truant behaviors and strategies which are intended to result in more regular attendance patterns.
- 11. "School day" shall mean the length of time that a compulsory school aged child is expected to be receiving instruction during a calendar day. The District has determined one school day is comprised of 330 minutes in grades 7-12 and 300 minutes in grades K-6.
- 12. "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 child'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 establish pursuant to Article XIX-C of the Pennsylvania Public School Code.
- 13. "Truant" shall mean having incurred three (3) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year by a compulsory school aged child.
- 14. "Unexcused absence" shall mean an absence from school which does not fall into one of the "excused absence" categories and/or for which a written explanation has not been submitted within the time period and in the manner required by the District in this Attendance Policy.
 - a. An out-of-school suspension is not considered an unexcused absence.
 - b. Students will receive no credit for work/assignments/tests which are due or are taken on dates that are unexcused, except for when the building administrator grants an exception on a case by case basis when a student is involved in the truancy process and has participated in "extra-help" programs at the school.
 - c. Students who accumulate more than twenty (20) unexcused absences during their senior year may not walk during the graduation ceremony, although the Building Principal may make exceptions on a case by case basis when/if the student breaks the pattern of absences and goes a period of time with regular attendance.

- C. EXCUSED ABSENCES: A student's absence will be considered "excused" only if it falls within one of the categories defined above. The following procedure shall be followed when a student is absent from school:
 - 1. Parents are requested to call their student's School Attendance Office by 9:00 a.m. on the day their student is absent to report all excused absences or tardies.
 - 2. Within three (3) school days from when a student returns to school after an absence, he/she must present a written excuse from a parent or guardian (or physician) to the school's designated attendance officer.
 - The written excuse shall provide the student's full name, grade, list the dates of absence and an explanation of the reason(s) for the absence. The parent or guardian must sign and date the written excuse.
 - 4. Upon receipt of the required written excuse in the mandatory time frame, the absence will be recorded as a "legal absence." Building Principals may use discretion to extend the 3 day time frame for submitting excuses for extenuating circumstances, on a case by case basis but in no event may a Building Principal accept excuses later than ten (10) calendar days from the date of the student's return from the absence.

Excused absences are not to be considered perfect attendance. The only exceptions to this policy are: school-related field trips, weather emergencies, District/school sanctioned sports or other extra-curricular activities, absence from school for religious instruction. No other exceptions are made.

The following reasons for absences are NOT legal and shall NOT count as "excused" absences: family vacations, personal business (work/hair appointments/shopping), oversleeping, missing the bus, car problems, hunting, babysitting siblings or others, senior skip day, general excuses (such as "out of town," "at an appointment," or "family emergency"). Building administrators will contact parents to gain further explanation of general excuses.

D. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES OF COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGED STUDENTS AND TRUANCY VIOLATIONS – Repeated unexcused absences or their equivalent (unexcused tardy minutes or unexcused minutes of class cuts) constitute "truancy" and will result in the referral of the student and his/her persons in parental relation to Court for violation of compulsory attendance laws.

A compulsory school aged student who accumulates ten (10) unexcused absences during one school year will no longer be eligible to participate in and/or attend all extracurricular activities and clubs, including but not limited to: field trips, participating in all athletics and other extracurricular activities, attending (as a spectator) all athletics and other extracurricular activities, dances, etc. However, after a period of improved attendance, the Building Administrator has the discretion to reinstate a student's privileges to participate in and/or attend extracurricular activities and clubs.

Compulsory aged students must comply with the compulsory education/truancy provisions of the Pennsylvania School Code. The following procedures shall be followed in accordance with mandatory Pennsylvania law:

- 1. <u>Truant Students.</u> When a student acquires three (3) or more days (or their equivalent) of unexcused absences during the current school year, s/he is considered "truant."
 - a) Within ten (10) school days of the student's third unexcused absence, the District will notify in writing the person in parental relation with the student who resides in the same household as the student of the student's compulsory school attendance violation. This written Truancy Notice shall:
 - (i) Include a description of the consequences that will follow if the student become habitually truant (described below); and
 - (ii) Schedule a School Attendance Improvement Conference.

When the Truancy Notice is transmitted to a person who is not the parent of the student, the Truancy Notice shall also be provided to the student's parent if the parent's mailing address is on file with the District and the parent is not precluded from receiving the information by court order.

b) The School Attendance Improvement Conference:

- (i) Relevant school officials and recommended service providers, the person in parental relation with the student who resides in the same household as the student, the student's parent/s (if possible) and any other relevant individuals shall meet to discuss the reasons for the student's absences in an effort to improve attendance and to create a written School Attendance Improvement Plan ("SAIP").
- (ii) The Conference shall occur even if the person in parental relation with the student and/or parents decline to participate or fail to attend the scheduled conference. The District officials present at the conference will proceed to discuss the student's attendance and will draft the SAIP and shall then provide copies of the SAIP to the student, the person in parental relation with the student who resides in the same household as the student and the student's parent/s if parent/s' mailing address is on file with the District and the District can share the information with the parent/s.
- (iii) Compulsory school attendance/truancy prosecution shall not take place until the Conference takes place and the SAIP is completed.
- 2. <u>Habitually Truant Students.</u> Students are deemed to be "habitually truant" when they have acquired six (6) or more days of unexcused absences in the current school year. The procedures followed depend on whether the student is 14 years and younger or 15 years and older:
 - a. <u>Procedure for Habitually Truant Students Fourteen Years Old and Younger</u>: If a student has acquired six (6) or more unexcused absences in the current school year and after the SAIP was completed at the Conference, the District shall:
 - (i) Refer the student to:
 - (a) a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program, or
 - (b) the Erie County Office of Children and Youth for services or possible disposition as a dependent child under 42 Pa. C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to juvenile matters). When/if the District refers the student to OCY for this purpose, the District must provide verification to OCY that the School Attendance Improvement Conference was held.
 - (ii) File a citation in the office of the appropriate Judge against the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student, provided, however, the Building Administrator may take extenuating circumstances into account and determine not to file a truancy citation on a case by case basis.
 - c) <u>Procedure for Habitually Truant Student Aged Fifteen (15) Years or Older:</u> If a student has acquired six (6) or more unexcused absences in the current school year and after the SAIP was completed at the Conference, the District shall:
 - (i) Refer the student to a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program or service, if one is appropriate and available in the opinion of the Building Administrator.
 - (ii) File a citation in the office of the appropriate Judge against the child or against the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the child, provided, however, the Building Administrator may take extenuating circumstances into account and determine not to file a truancy citation on a case by case basis.
 - (iii) If the Building Administrator does refer the student to a school-based or communitybased attendance improvement program and the student either refuses to participate in that program and/or continues to incur additional unexcused absences after the referral, the District may refer the student to the Erie County Office of Children and Youth for possible disposition as a dependent child under the provisions of 42 Pa. C.S. Ch. 63. When/if the District refers the student to OCY for this purpose, the District must provide verification to OCY that the School Attendance Improvement Conference was held.

- 3. <u>Truancy Citations</u>. When the District files truancy citations regarding a student's habitual truancy, the following shall occur:
 - a. The citation shall be filed with the Judge based on the location of the school in which the student is enrolled. The school must provide verification that a School Attendance Improvement Conference was held.
 - b. When a truancy citation is filed against a student and/or a person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the child, the Judge (not the District) shall send written notice of the truancy hearing to the school, to the person in parental relation and to Erie County Office of Children and Youth.
 - c. At the truancy hearing:
 - i. The District has the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that, while subject to compulsory school attendance, the student was habitually and without justification truant from school.
 - ii. It is an affirmative defense to a truancy citation filed against a person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student if the person in parental relation to the student took every reasonable step to ensure attendance of the student at school.
 - iii. The District, to the extent possible, shall inform the Judge of any prior conviction of the child or person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student for a violation of compulsory school attendance laws. The District, student and person in parental relation will be given an opportunity to present relevant information to the Judge, specifically including the student's attendance after the citation was filed and while the proceeding is pending.
 - iv. The Judge will issue a decision on whether the evidence established whether the student or person in parental relation has violated the compulsory school attendance requirements of the School Code.
 - d. Filing subsequent truancy offenses after the initial truancy hearing: No citation may be filed against a child or a person in parental relation with the child who resides in the same household as the child for a subsequent violation of compulsory school attendance if any of the following circumstances apply:
 - (i) The initial truancy proceeding is already pending against the student or a person in parental relation with the student who resides in the same household as the student and judgment in the first proceeding has not yet been entered, unless a warrant has been issued for failure of the student or person in parental relation to appear before the court and the warrant has not yet been served.
 - (ii) A referral for services has been made to the Erie County Office of Children and Youth and OCY has not closed the case.
 - (iii) A petition has been filed alleging the child is dependent due to being habitually truant under 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to juvenile matters) and the case remains under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.
 - 4. <u>Penalties for Violating Compulsory School Attendance Requirements.</u>
 - a. Both a student or a person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student may be convicted of a truancy violation. In such case, the following penalties may be ordered by the Judge:
 - i. sentenced to pay a fine for the benefit of the school that is responsible for the truancy proceedings in an amount not exceeding three hundred dollars (\$300) together with court costs except that, in the case of a second offense, the maximum fine for a person in parental relation may be a higher amount within their ability to pay not exceeding five hundred dollars

(\$500) together with court costs and, in the case of a third or subsequent offense, the maximum fine for a person in parental relation may be a higher amount within their ability to pay not exceeding seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750) together with court costs;

- ii. sentenced to perform community service; or
- iii. required to complete an appropriate course or program designed to improve school attendance which has been approved by the president judge of the judicial district.
- b. The Judge may suspend the sentence of a person convicted of an offense and may remit or waive fines and costs if the student attends school in accordance with a plan devised by the Judge.
- c. Upon a second or subsequent conviction of a student or a person in parental relation with the student who resides in the same household as the student for a violation of the requirements of compulsory school attendance in a Court within this Commonwealth within a three-year period, the Court shall refer the child for services or possible disposition as a dependent child under 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63.
- d. Upon failure of a person to satisfy the penalty of a fine imposed by the Court under Paragraph a, above,, the person in parental relation may be found in contempt of court and, upon conviction, may be sentenced to the county jail for a period not to exceed three (3) days in any one case. The Court shall make such a determination based on specific finding that the person in parental relation had reasonable ability to comply with the penalty imposed and that noncompliance was willful. The following shall apply:
 - i. In the case of a student, the failure to satisfy a fine or costs imposed under this section shall not be considered a delinquent act.
 - ii. The president judge of a judicial district may adopt a local policy under 42 Pa.C.S. § 6304 (relating to powers and duties of probation officers) and the Pennsylvania Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure to provide that a juvenile probation officer may receive allegations that the student who fails to satisfy a fine or costs imposed under this section is dependent for the purpose of considering the commencement of proceedings under 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63.
- e. If a student is convicted of a violation of the compulsory school attendance requirements, the Court may send the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation a certified record of the conviction on a form prescribed by the Department only if the student fails to comply with a lawful sentence entered for the violation and is not subject to an exception to compulsory attendance pursuant to Section 1330 of the School Code.
- f. The Department of Transportation shall suspend for ninety (90) days the operating privilege of a student upon receiving a certified record that the student was convicted of a summary offense under the compulsory school attendance requirements. If the Department of Transportation receives a certified record of a second or subsequent conviction of a student pursuant to this section, the Department shall suspend the student's operating privilege for six (6) months.
- g. A student whose record is received by the Department of Transportation as described above and who does not have a driver's license shall be ineligible to apply for a driver's license under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1505 (relating to learners' permits) and 1507 (relating to application for driver's license or learner's permit by minor) for the time period specified in Paragrah 4(f) above. If the student is under sixteen (16) years of age when convicted, suspension of operating privileges shall commence in accordance with 75 Pa.C.S. § 1541 (relating to period of disqualification, revocation or suspension of operating privilege) for the time specified in Paragraph 4(f).
- h. A student whose driving privileges have been suspended or whose eligibility for a permit or license is delayed under this section may have that license or eligibility restored by providing the Department of Transportation with a form developed by the Department of Transportation containing the following information in the form of a certified record from the student's school that the student:
 - i. has attended school for a period of at least two (2) months after the first conviction or four (4) months after the second conviction without an unexcused absence or unexcused tardy;

- ii. is subject to an exception to compulsory attendance under Section 1330 of the School Code; or
- iii. has graduated, withdrawn from school pursuant to compulsory attendance requirements under Section 1327 of the School Code, has received a general education diploma or has enlisted in the military.
- i. <u>Expungement of Record for Student Under Certain Conditions.</u> Upon application from a student who has a conviction of a summary offense of compulsory school attendance violations, the Court shall grant an expungement of the conviction from the student's record if all of the following apply:
 - i. The student has earned a high school diploma, a Commonwealth secondary school diploma or another Department of Education-approved equivalent, or is subject to an exception to compulsory attendance under Section 1330 of the School Code.
 - ii. The student has satisfied any sentence imposed by the court with respect to the conviction, including payment of fines and costs.

If the Court grants an expungement as described under Paragraph 4(i), the Court shall order the Department of Transportation to expunge all administrative records related to the convictions.

E. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FOR STUDENTS BEYOND COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE (students 17 years or older):

Students who are beyond compulsory school age are not subject to the truancy provisions of the Pennsylvania Public School Code. However, these students are subject to the following rules related to attendance:

- 1. Students who have missed days of school or specific classes for reasons that do are not considered "excused" shall receive no credit for work or tests missed on the unexcused days of classes.
- 2. Students who accumulate ten (10) unexcused absences during one school year will no longer be eligible to participate in and/or attend all extracurricular activities and clubs, including but not limited to: field trips, participating in all athletics and other extracurricular activities, attending (as a spectator) all athletics and other extracurricular activities, after a period of improved attendance, the Building administrator has the discretion to reinstate a student's privileges to participate in and/or attend extracurricular activities.

F. TARDINESS – Tardiness to school interferes with a student's learning just as if that student is absent from school. Chronic tardiness is unacceptable both in school and in the workplace.

Unexcused tardies may, when added together, constitute the equivalent of an unexcused absence from a day(s) of school, trigger internal District interventions and/or truancy prosecution procedures. NOTE: 330 unexcused tardy minutes constitute one unexcused day of absence in grades 7–12; 300 illegal tardy minutes constitute one unexcused day of absence in grades K–6.

Any student who is not present in school within the first 3.5 hours after the start of the school day, regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused, will not be permitted to participate in any school or extracurricular activity that day.

- 1. **Grades K 8** A student who is tardy to school after homeroom must report directly to the office where a tardy/excuse form will be completed and given to the student. This form must be presented to all teachers by the student for their signature.
- Grades 9 12 A student who is tardy to school after the bell rings for first period must report directly to the Attendance Office where a tardy/excuse form will be completed and given to her/him. This form must be presented to all teachers by the student for their signature.

G. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO ATTENDANCE

- d) **LEAVING SCHOOL WITHOUT PERMISSION/CUTTING CLASS** a student must have written permission by the parent/guardian describing a legal reason to be absent from school as set forth in Section 5 of this handbook. He/she is not to leave the building or an assigned class for any reason. Under no circumstances should a student call home and ask his/her parents to come and take him/her home. When necessary, such calls should be made by the school nurse or the appropriate administrator. If the student has forgotten his/her written permission, an administrator may call the parent documenting permission received by phone. Failure to comply with this policy shall result in the student being assigned an illegal or unexcused absence for the time missed from school and/or class. Students may be assigned disciplinary consequences for violation of this policy. A "0" will be given in classes which a student has cut or missed without a legal excuse.
- e) HOMEWORK AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR DAYS OF LEGAL ABSENCES When a student is absent (excused), a homework assignment request must be made by parents through the school administrator. At least one day (24 hours) prior notice should be given for instructors to gather all materials requested. Parents may pick up assignments in the office during regular school hours.

After returning to school, the student will have no more than (10) school days to complete all schoolwork.

- f) PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND SCHOOL DANCES Any student missing any portion of a school day without an excuse setting forth a legally permitted reason for the absence as defined in the Attendance Policy <u>WILL NOT BE PERMITTED</u> to participate in any school activity that day. STUDENTS ARE ALSO INELIGIBLE TO ATTEND A SCHOOL DANCE IF THEY HAVE HAD ANY SUSPENSIONS IN THE MONTH (30 CALENDAR DAYS) PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE DANCE.
- g) ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS ON HOME TUTORING PENDING EXPULSION For students who are on out of school suspension pending expulsion, the District considers those students legally absent from school for those ten days of suspension. Students will receive home tutoring services after the tenth day of suspension until they return to school or until they begin their expelled placement. One hour of home tutoring is the equivalent of one day of attendance at school, and a student's attendance record will reflect that. A student's failure to attend or participate in one hour of home tutoring shall be considered one unexcused day of absence, unless the parent/guardian submits an excuse for that absence consistent with the District's Attendance Policy.

<u>Compulsory school attendance (truancy) rules apply to students on home tutoring. This means a student's failure to participate in three hours of home tutoring without a legitimate excuse for those absences will equate to three days of unexcused absences, triggering the truancy provisions outlined in the Attendance Policy.</u>