

SPENCER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Agenda Item

Item # _____ Meeting Date 12/19/2011

Topic/Title Homework Policy 08.211 and

Absences and Excuses Policy 09.123 (First Reading)

Origin

_____ Topic presented for information only (*no board action required*).

X Action requested at this meeting.

_____ Item is on the consent agenda for approval.

_____ Action requested at future meeting, _____ (date).

_____ Board review required by –

_____ State or federal law or regulation

_____ Board of Education policy

_____ Other _____

Previous Review, Discussion or Action

_____ No previous Board review, discussion or action

_____ Previous review or action

Date _____

Action _____

Background/Summary of Information

Impact on Resources (REQUIRES FINANCE OFFICER'S INITIALS OF REVIEW)

_____ Finance Officer

Timetable for Further Review or Action

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION

Recommend first reading of policies 08.211 and 09.123

Absences and Excuses

Pupils are required to attend regularly and punctually the school in which they are enrolled. Recording of absences and tardies shall be made in compliance with the requirements of 702 KAR 7:125.¹

TRUANCY DEFINED

Any student who has attained the age of six (6), but has not reached his/her eighteenth (18th) birthday, who has been absent from school without valid excuse for three (3) days or more, or tardy without valid excuse on three (3) days or more, is a truant.

Any student enrolled in a public school who has attained the age of eighteen (18) years, but has not reached his/her twenty-first (21st) birthday, who has been absent from school without valid excuse for three (3) or more days, or tardy without valid excuse on three (3) or more days, is a truant.

Any student who has been reported as a truant two (2) or more times is an habitual truant.

A student who is absent for sixty (60) minutes or less of the regularly scheduled school day is tardy.

For the purposes of establishing a student's status as a truant, a student's attendance record is cumulative for an entire school year. When students transfer from one Kentucky district to another, attendance information from the previous district shall become part of their official attendance record for that school year.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

An excused absence or tardiness is one for which work may be made up, such as:

1. Death in the pupil's immediate family,
2. Illness of the pupil as verified by a signed statement from a health professional for days in excess of five (5) parent notes. One absence is equal to one day/per day. (One note for each day absent. For example: if a student misses five consecutive days they will need five notes).
3. Religious holidays and practices,
4. One (1) day for attendance at the Kentucky State Fair,
5. Documented military leave,
6. One (1) day prior to departure of parent/guardian called to active military duty,
7. One (1) day upon the return of parent/guardian from active military duty,
8. Visitation for up to ten (10) days with the student's parent, de facto custodian, or person with legal custody who, while on active military duty stationed outside of the country, is granted rest and recuperation leave, or

Absences and Excuses**EXCUSED ABSENCES (CONTINUED)**

9. Other valid reasons as determined by the Principal, including trips qualifying as educational enhancement opportunities.

Students shall be granted an excused absence for up to ten (10) school days to pursue an educational enhancement opportunity determined by the Principal to be of significant educational value. This opportunity may include, but not be limited to, participation in an educational foreign exchange program or an intensive instructional, experiential, or performance program in one (1) of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language, and the arts.

Permission for an enhanced educational opportunity must be requested and granted prior to the date of the absence. Unless the Principal determines that extenuating circumstances exist, requests for date(s) falling within State or District testing periods shall not be granted.

The Principal's determination may be appealed to the Superintendent/designee whose decision may then be appealed to the Board under its grievance policy and procedures.

Students receiving an excused absence under this section shall have the opportunity to make up school work missed and shall not have their class grades adversely affected for lack of class attendance or class participation due to the excused absence.

Any absence for reasons not stated above shall be considered an unexcused absence.

MAKE-UP WORK

Students shall have the number of days absent, plus one, to make up work missed, unless additional time is allowed by the teacher. It is the responsibility of the student to request the work/assignments. Teachers shall provide make-up work to elementary students.

SUSPENSION

Projects or homework assigned prior to suspension shall be accepted for credit. Students shall be responsible for submitting assignments upon return to school following suspension.

Long-term projects assigned during the suspension and due at a later date shall be accepted. It is the student's responsibility to get those assignments from the teacher.

Work assigned and due during suspension will be accepted. Students have the number of days of the suspension, plus one (1), to make up the work missed, unless additional time is allowed by the teacher. It is the responsibility of the student to request the work/assignments. Teachers shall provide make-up work to elementary students.

SCHOOL HANDBOOKS

Each school handbook shall include specific attendance requirements.

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STUDENTS

09.123
(CONTINUED)

Absences and Excuses

REFERENCES:

¹702 KAR 7:125
KRS 36.396, KRS 38.470, KRS 40.366
KRS 158.070, KRS 158.183, KRS 158.293, KRS 158.294
KRS 159.035, KRS 159.140, KRS 159.150, KRS 159.180
OAG 76-566, OAG 79-68, OAG 79-539, OAG 91-79, OAG 96-28

RELATED POLICIES:

09.111, 09.122, 09.4281
09.126 (re requirements/exceptions for students from military families)

Homework

STANDARDS FOR ASSIGNMENTS

Each school shall establish standards for out-of-school assignments. These standards shall encompass amounts and types of reasonable homework assignments by grade level.

PURPOSE OF ASSIGNMENTS

Homework shall be assigned for the improvement of learning. Curriculum-related assignments shall not be used for disciplinary purposes. Assignments should have meaning for the student, should be clear and specific, and should be of an amount and type that may be accomplished in a reasonable period of time.

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REFERENCE:

KRS 160.345

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