

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

October 26, 2021

SUBJECT:

Revision of the following Temporary Administrative Rule JE-R Student Attendance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State law requires all children of compulsory attendance age to regularly attend school. The board authorizes the administration to implement procedures for regulating student attendance during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), ensuring that absences are recorded and truancy is reported in accordance with policy JH, *Student Absences and Excuses*.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

Administration recommends the revision of Administrative Rule JE-R Student Attendance to reflect current guidelines for ensuring absences are recorded as it relates to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Temporary Administrative Rule JE-R Student Attendance.

ATTACHMENTS:

Temporary Administrative Rule JE-R Student Attendance

PREPARED BY:

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STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Code **JE-R** Issued **8/2010/21**

State law requires all children of compulsory attendance age to regularly attend school. Regular attendance is necessary if students are to make the desired and expected academic progress. Therefore, the board authorizes the administration to implement procedures for regulating student attendance during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), ensuring that absences are recorded and truancy is reported in accordance with policy JH, *Student Absences and Excuses*.

Students who are required to quarantine due to exposure or self-isolate due to COVID illness, will be provided the opportunity to participate in virtual learning utilizing various instructional strategies as determined by the district. While under quarantine or self-isolation, such students will be subject to the attendance procedures as set forth below for students receiving virtual instruction.

Students who are unable to participate in virtual learning will be considered lawfully absent in accordance with policy JH. If the illness is prolonged, such students will be eligible for medical homebound instruction as set forth in policy IHBH, *Medical Homebound Instruction*.

Onsite Attendance

~~Attendance is determined by whether a student is physically present in a classroom on school grounds or school property. Staff members will take attendance following the normal procedures set forth in district policy.~~

~~Students who are not sick, but who are required to quarantine or self-isolate, will be provided the opportunity to participate in virtual instruction utilizing various instructional strategies as determined by the district. While under quarantine or self-isolation, such students will be subject to the attendance procedures as set forth below for students regularly receiving virtual instruction.~~

~~Students who are sick due to COVID-19 will be considered lawfully absent in accordance with policy JH. If the illness is prolonged, such students will be eligible for medical homebound instruction as set forth in policy IHBH, *Medical Homebound Instruction*.~~

Virtual Attendance

Virtual attendance refers to the delivery of instructional content that does not occur in a physical classroom on school grounds or school property. This includes instruction provided via an online or electronic platform, ~~as well as instruction provided in a physical offsite location separate from school property~~ live or recorded sessions and/or paper learning materials. Virtual attendance is determined by whether a student submits work or participates in assigned activities in accordance with the classroom teacher's written requirements. Students who submit assignments or participate in assigned learning experiences by the deadline established by the classroom teacher should be considered present. Students who fail to submit assignments or participate in assigned learning experience(s) by the deadline established by the classroom teacher should be considered absent. Such absences will be processed in accordance with policy JH.

~~Students who are sick due to COVID-19 will be considered lawfully absent in accordance with policy JH. If the illness is prolonged, such students will be eligible for medical homebound instruction as set forth in policy IHBH.~~

Attendance for a Hybrid Schedule

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~~Should it be necessary to move to a hybrid schedule, S~~students participating in a combination of onsite and virtual instruction will be subject to both onsite and virtual attendance procedures, ~~set forth above~~. Onsite attendance will be determined by students' physical presence in the classroom, on grounds or school property. For virtual attendance, students must adhere to the classroom assignment rules established deadline for classroom assignment ~~by each teacher~~ to be considered present.

Truancy

State laws and regulations determining absences and truancy are applicable for both onsite and virtual instruction. Staff members will follow policy JH regarding continued absences and the following guidelines:

- when students accumulate three (3) consecutive or five (5) total unlawful absences, the principal or his/her designee will oversee the development and implementation of a written intervention plan designed to improve student attendance
- when truancy continues following implementation of a written intervention plan, students will be referred to the family court and parents/legal guardians to the Department of Social Services to address truancy issues as outlined in administrative rule JH

The district will make every effort to ensure that this administrative rule is applied in a fair and consistent manner.

Issued 8/25/20, 10/24/21