

Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Code: 411	Issued Date:
ATTENDANCE	Rescind:	Reference: SOP 1200-018

Board Policy

There is a plethora of educational research that shows the strong relationship between student attendance and academic success. The Board acknowledges that students need to be in school and engaged in learning with their teachers and peers. Excessive absences or tardiness erode this understanding and may lead to incomplete and unsatisfactory work, a reduced capacity to meet curricular standards, and lower course grades. Parents/guardians are partners with the school and faculty ensuring that students attend and arrive in class on time every day of the school year. Therefore, parents shall inform the school immediately when a child does not attend school. School personnel and teachers (to include substitutes or other personnel covering classroom instruction) shall inform parents, as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day when a child does not attend class. As partners in education, parents are expected to review their child's attendance, academics and social behavior on a daily basis using parent portal.

The Board acknowledges that academic achievement entails many components and those academic credentials should reflect more than just the product of quizzes, examinations, and papers. These alone do not adequately prepare students for the challenges awaiting them after graduation. An additional essential component of academic excellence is the development of good work habits necessary to successfully compete in an increasingly competitive work force. Attendance is the cornerstone for the development of such good work habits. The Board believes that the Department must place great emphasis on student attendance and do everything possible to ensure students come to school every day.

Students who are under the compulsory education age are required to attend school full-time, notwithstanding their inability to receive a passing grade in any course. A compulsory aged student who has incurred twelve (12) or more unexcused absences in a school year shall be referred to the Superintendent of Education. Pursuant to 17 GGA §6402, the Superintendent of Education has the explicate authority to review and approve all habitual truant petition to family court.

Upon enactment of this policy, the Superintendent shall establish uniform procedures across elementary, middle, and high schools for tracking student attendance. The Student Conduct Procedural Manual (SOP 1200-018) can be referenced to further clarify definitions and language addressed in this policy.

ADOPTED: Board of Education 12/13/88

AMENDED: 01/11/89; 02/08/94; 11/07/97

07/30/99 (By Governor of Guam), 9/24/15

SOP 1200-018 Reference: <https://sites.google.com/a/gdoe.net/gdoe/SOP>