



Responsible Office: Office of the Deputy Superintendent

**BOARD POLICY 5400
STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

PURPOSE

This Board of Trustees (Board) Board Policy is designed to keep students in school, provide them access to the curriculum, and describe the guidelines set forth regarding student attendance in the Washoe County School District (District). Regular class attendance by students contributes to the educational process and is necessary to satisfactorily complete the requirements of any class or subject offered.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Habitual truant" is when the student:
 - a. Has been declared truant three or more times in a school year; or
 - b. Was declared a habitual truant in the previous school year and then is absent from school without the written approval of the parent/guardian or the school, as applicable.
2. "Chronically absent" is when the student:
 - a. Has missed 10% or more of the days enrolled in school.

POLICY

1. In accordance with state law, children enrolled in a District school must follow this Board Policy and any implementing regulations or procedures for attendance.
 - a. Children between the ages of seven (7) and 18 years shall be enrolled in and attending school unless the student has graduated from high school.
 - b. No student shall be retained at the elementary or middle school level due strictly to attendance.
 - c. No student shall fail a course at the high school level due strictly to attendance.
2. If a student is at risk to become a habitual truant or is chronically absent, counselors, teachers, and administrators should work cooperatively with the

student and parent(s)/guardian(s) through the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) process to attempt to resolve the situation so that the school can continue to work towards the academic, social, and emotional growth of the student.

3. The Board hereby direct the Superintendent to adopt an Administration Regulation to implement and maintain the purpose of this Board Policy. The Superintendent shall include in the Administrative Regulation the following provisions:
 - a. Monitoring and reporting student attendance;
 - b. Communicating attendance, to include potential concerns, to the student's parent/guardian;
 - c. Ensuring protocols exist to enable students to make-up work as a result of missed school time;
 - d. Identifying students deemed a habitual truant or chronically absent, investigating the cause(s) of the behavior, and consideration of modifications of the student's educational program to provide opportunities for success;
 - e. Providing for interventions for students in danger of losing credit as a result of poor attendance or truancy; and
 - f. Students attending distance education, online courses, and any other hybrid learning model.
4. Student Attendance Advisory Committee
 - a. The District shall maintain a community advisory committee, known as the Student Attendance Advisory Committee, for the purpose of reviewing data related to student attendance and truancy; identifying factors that contribute to truancy and chronic absenteeism; recommending programs to reduce truancy and overall attendance; and communicating the policies and programs of the District to students and their families.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This Board Policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to include:
 - a. Chapter 392, Pupils, and specifically:
 - i. NRS 392.040 – 392.220, Attendance

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
2/18/2009	1.0	Adopted as Board Policy 5035
3/10/2015	2.0	Revised: Number changed from 5035
5/22/2018	3.0	Revised: Changed attendance from 90% attendance to 10% missed, added Student Attendance Advisory Committee
8/11/2020	4.0	Revised: Removed 10% language, added language related to online and distance learning
05/24/2022	5.0	Revised: Included reference to the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) process and formatted pursuant to BP 9070.