



“ATTENDANCE MATTERS”

**STUDENT SERVICES
CHILD WELFARE & ATTENDANCE
(916) 566-1615**

***Being at school every day
and on time is important for learning.
Every minute of every school day counts!***

Chronic Absenteeism Facts

Students need to know that being in school is their “job” and regular school attendance prepares them for success in their college and career paths.

Young people who are not in school are often victims of crime or more likely to be in trouble with the law.

Learning how to get along with others is an important part of the education process.

Studies demonstrate students who are absent two or more days each school month struggle more academically than their classmates.

Positive Attendance Tips

Set items for school out the night before, including clothes, shoes, and backpack with homework. Consistent routines at home help prepare students for school success.

Be on time every day to every class.
Know the school hours for your student(s).

Have your student(s) get plenty of rest. Students need 9-10 hours of sleep to be ready to learn. Turn off screen devices 1-2 hours before bedtime.

If your student is ill, notify the school office first thing in the morning. Parents have five days to verify reasons for an absence or the absence is considered unexcused.

Take vacations during scheduled school breaks. Make appointments for medical and dental check-ups during non-school hours.

District Policy

Students with Chronic Absenteeism are referred to a site level meeting called SART (School Attendance Review Team).

If there is no improvement after site level interventions, students may be referred to SARB (School Attendance Review Board), a district-level meeting with community agency representatives. **(Ed Code 48263)**

California Attendance Laws

All students between 6 and 18 years of age are required to attend school. Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child's attendance. **(Education Code 48200)**

A “chronic absentee” has been defined in **California Education code (EC) Section 60901(c)(1)** as “a pupil who is absent on 10 percent or more of the school days in the school year when the total number of days a pupil is absent is divided by the total number of days the pupil is enrolled and school was actually taught in the regular day of schools of the district, exclusive of Saturdays and Sundays.”

A student is considered truant if absent without a valid excuse for three (3) full days per school year or tardy or absent without a valid excuse on three (3) occasions per school year, or any combination thereof. **(Education Code 48260)**

A student's refusal to attend school regularly can result in referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB), Juvenile Probation and the Juvenile Court System. **(Education Code 48263)**