

## STUDENT PERSONNEL

### *Series 500*

Policy Title: ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Code: 502.3.1

Regular school attendance is a necessary factor of student success in school. The Idaho Code and Nez Perce Tribal Code require that attendance requirements be set by the District. Any absence, regardless of cause, is a disruption to the educational process for the student. Irregular attendance by any student is also disruptive of the educational process for the teacher and other students. Irregular attendance by any student disrupts the pace and organization of classroom instruction. Irregular attendance shifts the workload of the classroom teacher so less time is available to direct the learning experiences of students who attend regularly. Often the loss of time by students is so severe that the likelihood of meeting instructional time requirements or competencies is remote. In an effort to increase the likelihood of student success in school, the following provisions exist for students at Lapwai Schools.

A student must meet the academic standard determined by the classroom teacher and the attendance standards as follows:

1. School attendance personnel or classroom teachers will attempt to contact parents of unexcused students by telephone daily.
2. When a student has three (3) absences in a semester, a letter will be sent home. The letter will include the number of school days missed. The letter will be documented in Schoolmaster.
3. When a student reaches five (5) days of absences in a month or six (6) days of absences in a semester, the principal or designee will notify the superintendent. The principal will contact the parent/guardian to develop a plan to assure regular attendance to minimize further absences and explain policies for attendance. The principal contact will be documented in Schoolmaster.
4. When a student has missed ten (10) days in a semester, the student may be referred to Child Protective Services for educational neglect.
5. **Grades PreK-8:** Students who miss 40% or more of the scheduled instructional minutes of the school year will be automatically retained and required to repeat their current grade. The parent or guardian may appeal this retention with the Lapwai School District Attendance Committee.
6. **Grades 9-12:** Absences will be recorded by period. When a student misses twelve (12) days in any given period in a semester, the student will be withdrawn and lose credit for each class with 12 or more absences. The parent or guardian may appeal the loss of credit with the Lapwai School District Attendance Committee.
7. **Attendance Committee Appeals:** Approved appeals by the Lapwai School District Attendance Committee will include a plan to ensure regular and punctual attendance including resources and mentors to support improvement. Failure to adhere to the Attendance Committee plan will result in retention in grades PreK-8 and proceeding with loss of credit in grades 9-12. Failure to adhere to the Attendance Committee Plan may also result in parent and/or student referrals to the prosecutor in the appropriate jurisdiction and to Child Protective Services.

8. If the above efforts fail to improve attendance, the principal will refer the student to the superintendent. After reviewing the student's attendance record, the superintendent may arrange a hearing before the Board of Trustees in accordance with Idaho Code 33-205, Denial of School Attendance, for habitual truancy.

Date of Adoption: 7/11/80

Legal References:

Revised: 7/16/18

Section 33-205 I.C.

Readopted: July 2009

Related References:

Code 502.3 Regular and Punctual Attendance