

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Series 500

Policy Title: ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS (K-8)

Code: 502.3.2

Regular school attendance is a necessary factor of student success in school. The Idaho Code requires 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:

1. Exclusive of school-scheduled activities, a student must attend a minimum of 88% of the classroom-scheduled time per semester.
2. School attendance personnel and classroom teachers will attempt to contact parents of unexcused students by telephone, email or letter in a timely manner.
3. When average daily attendance reaches 90% or below in a semester, a letter will be sent home. The letter will include the number of school days missed.
4. When average daily attendance reaches 85% or below in a semester, parents will be notified to confer with the principal or a designee to develop a plan to assure regular attendance to minimize further absences.
5. If truancy is a problem during this process, or at any time by the request of the principal, the superintendent or school resource officer will contact the parents to provide an explanation of either Idaho Code requirements for parents to have their children attend school regularly or to explain Tribal attendance regulations (whichever jurisdiction applies).
6. When average daily attendance reaches 80% or below in a semester, the student may be referred to the prosecuting attorney's office for habitual truancy and to Child Protective Services for educational neglect.
7. 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: 8/18/2003 Legal References:

Readopted: July 2009 Section 33-205 I.C.

Revised: 7/16/12, 6/16/14

Related References: Code 502.3 Regular and Punctual Attendance