

## I. PURPOSE

- A. The school board believes that regular attendance is directly related to success in academic work, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers, staff and students and establishes regular habits of dependability important to the future of the student. This policy covers attendance only at those NWSISD programs or activities students receive credit for or are required to attend.

The purpose of this policy is to encourage regular attendance at NWSISD programs and activities. It is intended to be positive and not punitive.

- B. This policy also recognizes that attendance is a joint responsibility to be shared by the student, parent or guardian, and NWSISD staff. This policy will assist students in attending NWSISD programs or activities for which they receive credit.

## II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

### A. Responsibilities

#### 1. Student's Responsibility

It is the student's right to participate in NWSISD programs and activities in accordance to her/his home school district's arrangements with NWSISD. It is also the student's responsibility to attend all sessions of those programs or activities he/she has registered for, and to be aware of and follow the correct procedures when absent from that program or activity. Finally, it is the student's responsibility to request any missed assignments due to an absence.

#### 2. Parent or Guardian's Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to ensure the student is attending the NWSISD program or activity for which he or she is registered, to inform NWSISD staff in the event of a student absence, and to work cooperatively with NWSISD staff and the student to solve any attendance problems that may arise.

#### 3. NWSISD Staff's Responsibility

When a NWSISD program or activity pertains to graduation standards, it is the NWSISD staff's responsibility to:

- take attendance and to maintain accurate attendance records for each NWSISD program or activity,

- be familiar with all procedures governing attendance and to apply these procedures uniformly, notify the appropriate staff at the student's home school district when a student is absent,
- provide any student who has been absent with any missed assignments upon request, and
- work cooperatively with the student's parent or guardian and the student to solve any attendance problems that may arise.

**B. Attendance Procedures**

NWSISD shall follow the attendance procedures of its member school districts whenever graduations standards are involved in a NWSISD program or activity.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)  
 Minn. Stat. § 120A.24 (Reporting)  
 Minn. Stat. § 120A.26 (Enforcement and Prosecution)  
 Minn. Stat. § 120A.28 (School Boards and Teachers, Duties)  
 Minn. Stat. § 120A.30 (Attendance Officers)  
 Minn. Stat. § 120A.34 (Violations; Penalties)  
 Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40 - 121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)  
 Minn. Stat. § 260C.007, Subd. 19 (Habitual Truant Defined)  
 Minn. Stat. § 260A.02 (Definitions)  
 Minn. Stat. § 260A.03 (Notice to Parent or Guardian When Child is Continuing Truant)  
*Goss v. Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565, 95 S.Ct. 729 (1975)  
*Slocum v. Holton Board of Education*, 429 N.W.2d 607 (Mich. App. Ct. 1988)  
*Campbell v. Board of Education of New Milford*, 475 A.2d 289 (Conn. 1984)  
*Hamer v. Board of Education of Township High School District No. 113*, 66 Ill. App.3d 7 (1978)  
*Gutierrez v. School District R-1*, 585 P.2d 935 (Co. Ct. App. 1978)  
*Knight v. Board of Education*, 348 N.E.2d 299 (1976)  
*Dorsey v. Bale*, 521 S.W.2d 76 (Ky. 1975)

**Cross References:** NWSISD Policy 506 (Student Discipline)

**Adopted:** January 15, 2003