

Section 500 – Students
Student Attendance
Student Absences

File: 503.03

Regular attendance by students is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students shall attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center.

Student absences approved by the principal shall be excused absences. Excused absences other than documented illness shall count as days in attendance for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism, except for notification of the county attorney in Policy 503.04.

Effective with the first day of the 2020-2021 school year, students who are absent due to quarantine or self-isolation as prescribed by the district's Health Department or other Health Organization shall be considered "in attendance", as long as the following criteria are followed during their home stay:

- Students whose health allows, will engage actively in their live daily classes as required by each teacher following their daily schedule.
- Students will complete any assigned work in a timely manner as determined by the individual teacher's policy.

Students whose absences are approved shall make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed school work, within guidelines of the student handbook. It shall be the responsibility of the student to initiate a procedure with the student's teacher to complete the work missed.

A student must be in school 1/2 day the day before an all-day contest (such as a track meet), 1/2 day the day of an evening contest, and all day, the day after participation in a scheduled contest. Certain exceptions may be allowed as stated in the Activity Handbook.

It shall be the responsibility of the parent to notify the student's attendance center as soon as the parent knows the student will not be attending school on that day. The principal may request evidence or written verification of the student's reason for absence.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-209
 NDE Rule 10.012.01B

Cross Reference: 505 Student Discipline
 506 Student Activities
 507 Student Records