

PUPIL ATTENDANCE

The Board of Trustees of the Fullerton Joint Union High School District believes that regular attendance plays a key role in student achievement. This belief is supported by the Education Code, which mandates student attendance unless otherwise provided by law. To this end, parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that their student attends school daily. The student, in turn, is responsible for attending each class. The Fullerton Joint Union High School District shall abide by all state attendance laws and may use appropriate legal means to correct the problems of excessive absence, unexcused absence, and truancy.

It is the belief of the Board of Trustees that:

- optimum learning by students is dependent upon regular attendance in class or participation in an organized learning activity arranged to meet specific educational objectives;
- it is the responsibility of the pupil to attend class or planned learning activity, to arrive on time, and to be ready to work;
- it is the responsibility of the parents, or guardians, to ensure that the pupil attends school;
- it is the responsibility of the school to make a reasonable effort to notify parents or guardians when their child does not attend school, class, or planned learning activity;
- it is the joint responsibility of the parents, or guardians, teachers, counselors, and administration to assist the pupil in resolving his/her attendance problem.

The intent of this policy is to provide a structure within the District that will enable students to gain maximum benefit from all aspects of the educational program. It takes into consideration the fact that students have developed to different stages of personal maturity and thus are able to guide their behavior and to assume responsibility to a varying degree. Regular attendance in class, or planned learning activity, is essential if students are to receive adequate instruction through their course work and to benefit from the group dynamics generated within any class or planned learning activity. Student achievement is measured in terms of letter grades (A, B, C, D, and F) and units of credit (normally five units per class per semester). The letter grade is a measure of the quality of the student's work. Units of credit are earned by completion of assigned work and participation in class and/or other planned learning activity. Unauthorized absence from class or other planned learning activity or failure to make up work for authorized absence may affect student achievement and may result in a lower grade being earned and/or fewer units of credit being earned by the student.

Alternatives to regular school attendance may be allowed as provided by the Education Code under regulations developed by the Superintendent.

Reference: Education Code Section 48200

Policy adopted: October 20, 1975; December 4, 1978; June 18, 1979; February 4, 1980; December 8, 1998; September 14, 1999