

COMPULSORY STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Philosophy

It is the belief of the Board of Education that regular attendance at school is an essential and basic ingredient in order for students to attain success during their school career. When students are absent from class, they miss integral and essential parts of the learning process. Certain classroom activities, such as discussions, films and the participation of guest speakers can never be made up. It is the student's responsibility to participate and contribute in the classroom learning process. Excessive absences have a detrimental effect on other students as well as on the process of instruction. Absences do harm to the process of education by placing greater demands on the time of teachers for make-up assignments and assistance to absent students. This demand is an infringement upon the rights of other students for the equal attention of the teacher.

Beginning at the elementary school level, school attendance when supported and encouraged by parents/guardians constitutes a vital part of the child's development of a positive attitude toward school and to their ultimate success. Conversely, when parents/guardians are not supportive of regular school attendance, the child begins to view school as not being important as well as missing the instructional time mentioned above. Both of these elements significantly increase the risk of an unsuccessful school experience and are directly related to a student not graduating or dropping out.

The Marathon City School District shall work cooperatively with the parent/guardian or responsible adult to teach students the importance of daily and timely school and class attendance. However, the primary legal and moral responsibility for student attendance rests with the parent/guardian and the student. Good instruction is an important part of this process and it is the position of the Board of Education that the climate for a good instruction begins on the student's part, with regular attendance.

Attendance Requirement

In accordance with the compulsory school attendance law, all children between six and 18 years of age must attend school regularly during the full period and hours, religious holidays excepted, that the public or private school in which the child should be enrolled is in session until the end of the school term, quarter or semester of the school year in which the child becomes 18 years of age, unless they fall under one of the exceptions outlined in state law or have graduated from high school.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 118.15 Wisconsin Statutes
 118.153
 118.16
 118.162
 118.165

CROSS REF.: Board Rule 431, Student Attendance Guidelines/Procedures

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