

**Students**

**Student Admission, Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism and Withdrawal**

Each parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age and over and under eighteen (18) years of age shall cause such child to attend a public school regularly during the hours and terms the public school in the district in which such child resides is in session, unless such child is a high school graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the public schools.

All students enrolled in the Waterford Public School System are required to attend school on a regular basis. Regular and punctual attendance in school is essential to the educational process. Connecticut state law places responsibility for assuring that students attend school with the parent or other person having control of the child. To assist parents and other persons in meeting this responsibility, the Board, through its Superintendent, will adopt and maintain procedures to implement this policy.

In addition, the Board takes seriously the issue of chronic absenteeism. To address this issue, the Board, through its Superintendent, will adopt and maintain procedures regarding chronic absenteeism in accordance with state law.

- Legal Reference:
- Connecticut General Statutes §10-220
  - Connecticut General Statutes §10-184
  - Connecticut General Statutes §10-186
  - Connecticut General Statutes §10-198
  - Public Act 15-225, “An Act Concerning Chronic Absenteeism”
  - Guidelines for Reporting Student Attendance in the Public School Information System (Connecticut State Department of Education, January 2008)
  - Connecticut State Department of Education Circular Letter C-2, *Utilizing Local Support Resources Prior to Referral of Students for Family with Service Needs* (August 4, 2009)
  - Connecticut State Board of Education Memorandum, *Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences* (June 27, 2012)
  - Connecticut State Department of Education, *Guidelines for Implementation of the Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences and Best Practices for Absence Prevention and Intervention* (April 2013)
  - Connecticut State Department of Education Memorandum, *Adoption of Definition of Remote Absence* (September 7, 2022)
  - Connecticut State Board of Education Resolution (September 7, 2022)

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WATERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Waterford, Connecticut