

Attendance

All children who reside in the school district and are of legal school age are eligible to attend school. The admission of students shall be strictly in accordance with the provisions of the state law.

District 145 requires regular and punctual student attendance. Administration is responsible for developing further attendance rules and regulations which are published in student handbooks. Principals and teachers are required to maintain an accurate record of student attendance.

Every person residing in the school district, who is a parent or legal guardian of any student, who is enrolled in a district school, shall cause such student to attend regularly, each day school is in session unless excused by school authorities or exempted by law, or has received a high school diploma or General Equivalency Diploma.

Attendance and Absences

Mandatory ages of attendance for truancy purposes are age 6 (as of January 1 of the then current school year) to age 18.

Attendance is not mandatory for a child who has reached the age of 6 years prior to January 1 of the then current school year, and who will not reach age 7 prior to January 1 of such school year, if the child's parent or legal guardian has signed and filed with the school district, in which the child resides, an affidavit stating either the child is participating in an education program which the parent or legal guardian believes will prepare the child to enter grade one for the following school year; or the parent or legal guardian intends for the child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect, pursuant to law, not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and the parent or legal guardian intends to provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement pursuant to section 79-1601(3) on or before the child's seventh birthday.

Attendance is not mandatory for a child who has obtained a high school diploma by meeting statutory graduation requirements; or has completed the program of instruction offered by a school which elects, pursuant to law, not to meet accreditation or approval requirements; or has reached the age of 16 years and such child's parent or legal guardian has signed a notarized release discontinuing the enrollment of the child on a form provided by the school.

Absences from school will be reported as an excused absence or an unexcused absence.

Absences will be cleared through the principal's office in advance, whenever possible. An absence or tardy, even with parental approval, may not be excused. Absences, except for illness and/or death in the family, require advance approval. If a student's absence is unexcused, consequences are outlined in student handbooks. Consequences may include a loss of credit for any class work missed during the absence, along with the student being required to make-up the work and also the time missed.

A student who engages in unexcused absences may be considered truant as per state law Neb. Rev. Stat. ' 79-201. Truancy is a violation of school rules. The consequence of such action may include suspension from classes along with the student being required to make up the time missed. Students who leave the school premises without permission during the school day will be considered truant.

Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board who is aware of any failure on the part of any child, of mandatory school attendance age, to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall report the violation to the superintendent. The superintendent shall investigate the reported violation. The superintendent shall also investigate any case when personal knowledge, or report or complaint from any resident of the school district, leads the superintendent to believe any child is unlawfully absent from school. The school shall render all services in its power to compel any child to attend a public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the parent or legal guardian of the child shall designate, in an attempt to address the problem of excessive absenteeism.

Students who accumulate multiple unexcused absences shall be deemed to have “excessive absences.” Such absences shall be determined on a per day basis for elementary students and on a per class basis for secondary students. When a student has excessive absences, the principal or a member of the administrative staff designated by the administration, will attempt to solve the excessive absenteeism problem by working with the student and parent or legal guardian.

Excessive Absenteeism Reported to the County Attorney. If a student is absent more than twenty days per year or the hourly equivalent, the superintendent shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the person violating the compulsory attendance laws (the student, student’s parent, legal guardian) resides.

When reporting excessive absenteeism, the attendance officer shall inform the county attorney whether the excessive absences are due to documented illnesses that make attendance impossible or impractical. This may be done by informing the County Attorney of either the number of absences due to such illnesses or that the attendance officer is of the opinion that prosecution is not warranted.

Reporting to the Commissioner. The superintendent or designee shall report to the Commissioner of Education as directed by the Commissioner regarding the number of and reason for any long-term suspension, expulsion, or excessive absenteeism of a student; referral of a student to the office of the county attorney for excessive absenteeism; or contacting of law enforcement officials (other than law enforcement officials employed by or contracted by the school district as school resource officer) by the district relative to a student enrolled in the district.

School district affidavit forms for a child age 6 to not attend school and for parent release for children age 16 and 17 to discontinue enrollment are attached and considered a part of this board policy.

Policy Adopted: 10/03/11

SCHOOL DISTRICT 145
WAVERLY, NEBRASKA

AFFIDAVIT

(For Child Age 6 to Not Attend School)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, states upon oath as follows:

I am the parent or legal guardian of _____ (Child's Name). The child's date of birth is _____. The child has or will reach the age of six prior to January 1 of the current school year, but will not reach age seven prior to January 1 of the current school year.

I elect to not enroll the child in an accredited school this year and hereby affirm: (check or initial appropriate exception for attendance):

_____ The child is participating in an education program that the parent or legal guardian believes will prepare the child to enter grade one for the following school year; or

_____ The parent or legal guardian intends for the child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and the parent or guardian intends to provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement pursuant to section 79-1601 (3) on or before the child's seventh birthday.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this affidavit is signed and acknowledged this _____ day of _____, _____.

Parent Or Legal Guardian Signature

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
)
COUNTY OF LANCASTER) ss.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, _____ by _____.

Notary Public

AFFIDAVIT

PARENT RELEASE

(For Children Age 16 and 17 to Discontinue Enrollment)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, states upon oath as follows:

I am the parent or legal guardian of _____ (Child's Name). The child's date of birth is _____. The child has or will reach the age of 16, but was not age 16 as of July 16, 2004, and has not reached the age of 18.

I hereby release the Child from continued enrollment in school. The Child is disenrolled from school effective _____ (insert date; if none stated, disenrollment is effective immediately).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this affidavit is signed and acknowledged this _____ day of _____, _____.

Parent Or Legal Guardian Signature

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
)
COUNTY OF LANCASTER) ss.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, _____ by _____.

Notary Public