



COLTON JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ATTENDANCE POLICY

The mission of the Colton Joint Unified School District is to prepare every student with the knowledge and skills needed for lifelong success in a changing world. Students who are chronically absent from school are not able to accomplish their educational goals.

According to the California Compulsory Attendance Law (Ed. Code 48200) students are required to attend school on a regular basis from the ages of 6 to 18 years of age. The District also requires a student enrolled in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten to attend school on a regular basis.

A chronic absentee is a pupil who is absent for **ANY** reason, 10 percent or more of the school days the pupil is enrolled during the school year [Ed. Code 60901(c) (1)]. Please contact the school with either a note or phone call to document the reason for your student's absence(s).

The State law states:

- Any pupil subject to compulsory education who is absent from school without a valid excuse three full days in one school year or tardy or absent for more than a 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or a combination of each, is considered a truant and shall be reported to the District's attendance supervisor. (Ed. Code 48260)
- Once a student has received their third truancy, the District will notify the parent/guardian in writing that the student is considered a truant and that the parent/guardian is subject to prosecution if the matter is not corrected. (Ed. Code 48260.5)

District policy states:

- Once a student has received six truanancies, a second letter will be mailed to the parent/guardian informing them that their child is truant. The school will also schedule a Student Attendance Review Team meeting (SART) to place the student and parent/guardian on an SART attendance contract. The school will also refer the student and parent/guardian to the District Attorney's office through the Let's End Truancy program (LET). Students can also be placed on a SART contract for being chronically absent, despite the reason.
- If a student violates the SART contract, the student and parent/guardian will receive a subpoena to attend a Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) to discuss the attendance issues with the Coordinator of Child Welfare and Attendance, the District Attorney, and County Probation. The student and parent/guardian will then be placed on a SARB contract. Violation of the SARB contract will result in the citation of the parent/guardian and/or student with the minimum fine of \$100 to a maximum penalty toward the parent/guardian of \$2,500 and/or one year in jail. (Penal Code 272)

Your cooperation is needed to help us give your student a quality education.

If you have questions regarding this policy, please contact Christy Padilla at (909) 580-6525.