# **Attendance Process Update**

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All attendance matters and missed instruction is cumulative.

### Policy JED

- Student attendance is a cooperative effort, and the School Board involves parents and students in accepting the responsibility for good attendance.
- Each parent/guardian or person having control or charge of a child within the compulsory attendance age is responsible for such child's regular and punctual attendance at school as required under provisions of the law.

### Policy JED: Attendance Standards

- School attendance is critical to academic achievement and preparing students for the world of work and personal success. The School Board expects students and their families to actively take responsibility for ensuring attendance in grades preschool through twelve, with support from the school. To help students develop desirable behavior patterns, as well as maximize their classroom learning, Charlottesville City Schools expects that students be punctual and regular in school class attendance. Families must support and encourage their children's school attendance and communicate regularly with schools when their children must be absent for any reason.
- Family Support and Engagement: Whenever attendance problems exist, appropriate school system resources shall be made available to support effective communication and intervention.

#### Absenteeism and accreditation

- Chronic absenteeism has been reported to the state as part of accreditation since 2010.
- The previous accreditation model established the benchmark for chronic absenteeism as <15%.</li>
- The new accreditation model will include chronic absenteeism within the readiness category.

## Year over year comparison

School	2017	2018	2019	2022	2023	2024
Burnley Moran	9.68	6.58	11.14	6.19	12.17	9.58
Greenbrier	5.78	4.57	5.98	4.92	9.42	7.94
Jackson Via	7.19	9.5	8.57	17.89	16.89	26.35
Johnson	9.54	4.78	4.17	11.51	17.54	23.47
Summit	13.84	7.19	8.75	26.34	30.22	21.46
Trailblazer	5.3	3.82	3.24	5.45	15.36	14.14
Walker	5.75	5.57	9.75	18.33	25.33	21.18
Buford	9.18	10.6	11.41	24.16	35.92	24.82
CHS	6.93	6.67	7.78	25.49	18.67	39.21

#### Regulation JED-R: Excused v Unexcused

- All absences matter because learning time is lost.
- Excused absences are not considered truant and do not require state reporting of attendance plans, attendance conferences, and court referrals.
  - Parents can excuse absences up to 10 school days. After 10, these absences may be unexcused.
  - Doctors can excuse extended absences (3+ days)
  - Other excused absences are detailed in the regulation including religious observances, funerals, and engagement in a civic event.
- Unexcused absences are considered truant and require state reporting of attendance plans, attendance conferences, and can lead to court referral.

#### Regulation JED-R: Formal Notification

These are automated processes using 3rd party vendors that rely on accurate attendance coding.

#### Letters:

- Unexcused absences -
  - 3 unexcused absences
  - 5 unexcused absences
  - Continued unexcused absences
- Excused absences -
  - 5 excused absences
  - 10 excused absences
- Chronic absenteeism
  - o 10% or more of the school year due to excused and unexcused absences.

#### Phone call/text message/Parentsquare:

Daily, when absent from school and no notification received

#### Regulation JED-R: Interventions

- Unexcused absences -
  - 5 unexcused: Attendance conference
  - 7 unexcused: Referral to student success team for attendance plan
  - Continued unexcused absences with no improvement: multi-disciplinary team referral
- Chronic absenteeism
  - Referral to student success team

#### Required flexible, in-person instruction

- Schools may require that students attend after school or Saturday school to make up missed instruction.
- Schools will use multiple data points to make a determination that it is required including:
  - rate of absenteeism
  - root causes of the absenteeism
  - academic achievement