

Board Policy – Student Attendance Review Team
Board Policy 5111.10

BRIDGES School Board believes that excessive student absenteeism and tardiness, whether caused by excused or unexcused absences, may be an early warning sign of poor academic achievement and may put students at risk of dropping out of school. The Board wants to ensure that all students attend school in accordance with the state's compulsory education law and take full advantage of educational opportunities provided by the school.

In accordance with Bridges Board Policy 5111, Bridges students shall adhere to all absence and truancy policies. However, if students do not adhere to them, the following protocol will occur;

1. Parents will be notified in writing upon a student's third unexcused absence, third unexcused tardy of 30 minutes or longer, or any combination of the two.
2. Parents will receive a second notification in writing upon a student's sixth absence, sixth unexcused tardy of 30 minutes or longer, or any combination of the two.
3. Parents will be required to meet with the Director of Bridges to discuss continuing attendance issues upon a student's tenth unexcused absence, tenth unexcused tardy of 30 minutes or longer, or any combination of the two.
4. Parents will be required to appear before the Student Attendance Review Team (SART committee) upon student's twelfth unexcused absence, twelfth unexcused tardy of 30 minutes or longer, or any combination of the two.
5. Upon a student's fourteenth unexcused absence, unexcused tardy of 30 minutes or longer, or any combination of the two, the family will be referred to the Ventura County School Attendance Review Board, which may result in a referral to the Ventura County District Attorney's Office.

Student Attendance Review Team

The SART committee shall be comprised of the Bridges School board members. The SART committee will schedule a student hearing and shall take place at Bridges. The family will be given at least 5 days notification of the mandatory meeting. Failure to appear at the hearing will result in the automatic recommendation to the next step of the SART process.

Support Systems

The Director or designee shall work with students and parents/guardians to identify factors contributing to chronic absence and truancy. Based on this needs assessment, he/she shall collaborate with community agencies, including, but not limited to, child welfare services, law enforcement, courts, and/or public health care agencies, to ensure that alternative educational

programs and nutrition, health care, and other support services are available for students and families and to intervene as necessary when students have serious attendance problems.

As required by law (Education Code 48321), habitually truant students shall be referred to a school attendance review team (SART), a truancy mediation program operated by the county's district attorney or probation officer, and/or a juvenile court.

The school's SART shall operate in accordance with Education Code 48320-48325 and procedures established by the Director or designee.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1740 Employment of personnel to supervise attendance (county superintendent)

37223 Weekend classes

41601 Reports of average daily attendance

46000 Records (attendance)

46010-46014 Absences

46110-46119 Attendance in kindergarten and elementary schools

46140-46147 Attendance in junior high and high schools

48200-48208 Children ages 6-18 (compulsory full-time attendance)

48240-48246 Supervisors of attendance

48260-48273 Truants

48290-48296 Failure to comply; complaints against parents

48320-48325 School attendance review boards

48340-48341 Improvement of student attendance

48400-48403 Compulsory continuation education

49067 Unexcused absences as cause of failing grade

60901 Chronic absence