All students are expected to be in attendance unless absent for unavoidable reasons. We will permit any student to miss four and a half (4.5) block schedule periods or nine (9) regular class periods or less from any class during a semester. These class period absences are intended to be used only for the student's own illness, doctor's appointments, family emergencies, or work at home. Students who use their absences for other reasons (such as trips, shopping, or senior pictures) do so at their own risk. After a student has been absent from any class four and a half block schedule class times or nine (9) regular class times, any further absences will be excused if the student presents a doctor's or a dentist's statement stating that the absence was due to illness, injury, or a doctor's appointment.

Severe illness of a family member or death in the family will also be reason for an excused absence and will not require a doctor's excuse.

If a student does not present such an excuse, his/her absence will be counted as unexcused and a zero will be recorded in any class, which he/she has missed. Three such unexcused absences will cause the students to fail the semester in the class for which they are recorded.

Excessive absences may not be appealed to the Board of Trustees if recommended by the administration.

Students who are absent, because of participation in school activities such as sports, band, drama, or class activity such as field trips, will be automatically excused, and such events will not count toward the nine absence total.

Students who are absent for any reason must present an excuse from their parents verifying that the person knew of and approved the absence. Failure to present such an excuse will cause the absence to be counted as a truancy. Truancies must be made up by after school detention time exceeding the length of time the student was truant. No student with a truancy, which has not been made up may participate in any extra-curricular activity or receive credit in any class which he/she missed due to the truancy.

Truancies (even when made up) still count as absences in the four and a half block (4.5) or nine (9) regular class periods permitted.

Parents of all students will be notified in writing when their child(ren) have missed over three (3) block class periods or six (6) regular periods in any school semester and a conference will be set among parents/guardians, teachers, and school administration to determine a better plan for attendance.

Elementary students in grades K-6 will be expected to attend school on a regular basis and once a student has accumulated six absences in a given semester, the parents of that student must be notified in writing by the district. After nine absences in a given semester, Elementary students will be subject to retention review.

Pursuant to Resolution dated January 10, 2005, any 7th or 8th grade student who fails a Core Class will repeat that class in the next subsequent school year prior to entering any sequential class directly related to the class(es) that have been failed.

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LEGAL REFERENCE:
Idaho Code Sections 33-, Board Action

ADOPTED: 9/8/86
AMENDED: 7/30/90, 3/8/93, 6/13/05
REVIEWED: 10/21/98