

## STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

The following reasons for student absences from schools are recognized as valid by the Board of Education:

1. sickness or death in the family;
2. impassable roads;
3. religious observance;
4. illness;
5. school-approved and supervised trips;
6. required court attendance;
7. quarantine;
8. college visitation;
9. medical appointments;
10. approved cooperative work programs.

Any other absence is considered unexcused. An accounting must be made for each absence. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to notify the school on the morning of the absence. In addition, parent(s)/ guardian(s) must provide a written excuse for each absence.

### Instruction on Days of Religious Observance

The district recognizes the individual's right to observe a holy day, as well as the student's right to a full educational program. No pressure, direct or implied, shall be placed on students to attend school on these days.

On days which the State Education Department has identified as days of religious observance in New York State, parents may keep their children home with the knowledge that such absences will be excused by the district.

The following guidelines reflect a sensitivity to students' rights and are intended to assist the teacher in planning classroom activities and in assigning class homework:

1. No new work which will eventually be tested will be given on days of religious observance. Tests may be given on the day after a religious holiday on material which was covered before the religious holiday.
2. On a religious holiday, the classroom teacher may review old subject matter or provide enrichment material.
3. All athletic events and after-school activities will be held on these days as scheduled.

Ref: Education Law §§1709(2); 3202(1-a); 3024; 3025

Date Adopted: 12/7/04