STUDENT ATTENDANCE, TRUANCY AND CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Regular and punctual student attendance in school is essential to the educational process. Connecticut state law places responsibility for assuring that students attend school with the parent or other person having control of the child. To assist parents and other persons in meeting this responsibility, the Board of Education (the “Board”), through its Superintendent, will adopt and maintain procedures to implement this policy.

In addition, the Board takes seriously the issue of chronic absenteeism. To address this issue, the Board, through its Superintendent, will adopt and maintain procedures regarding chronic absenteeism in accordance with state law.

Legal References:

- Public Act No. 22-47
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-220
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-184
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-186
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198a
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198b
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198c
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198d
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198e
- Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198f

Connecticut State Department of Education, Guidelines for Reporting Student Attendance in the Public School Information System (January 2008)
Connecticut State Board of Education Memorandum, Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences (June 27, 2012)


Connecticut State Department of Education Memorandum, Youth Service Bureau Referral for Truancy and Defiance of School Rules (February 22, 2018)


Connecticut State Department of Education Memorandum, Mental Health Wellness Days (January 24, 2022)

Connecticut State Department of Education Memorandum, Adoption of Definition of Remote Absence (September 7, 2022)

Connecticut State Board of Education Resolution (September 7, 2022)

ADOPTED by BOE 5/13/2024

REVISED:__________

11/29/2022
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING
ATTENDANCE, TRUANCY AND CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

I. Attendance and Truancy

A. Definitions for Section I

1. “Absence” - any day during which a student is not considered “in attendance” as defined in these regulations.

2. “Disciplinary absence” - any absence as a result of school or District disciplinary action. Any student serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion should be considered absent except for each day that the student receives alternative education programming for at least half of the instructional school day. A disciplinary absence is not considered excused or unexcused for attendance and truancy purposes.

3. “Educational evaluation” - for purposes of this policy, an educational evaluation is an assessment of a student’s educational development, which, based upon the student’s presenting characteristics, would assess (as appropriate) the following areas: health, vision, hearing, social and emotional status, general intelligence, academic performance, communicative status and motor abilities.

4. “Excused absence” - a student is considered excused from school if the school has received written documentation describing the reason for the absence within ten (10) school days of the student’s return to school, or if the student has been excluded from school in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-210 (regarding communicable diseases), and the following criteria are met:

   a. Any absence before the student’s tenth (10th) absence is considered excused when the student’s parent/guardian approves such absence and submits appropriate written documentation in accordance with this regulation.
b. For the student’s tenth (10th) absence and all absences thereafter, a student’s absences from school are, with appropriate documentation in accordance with this regulation, considered excused only for the following reasons:

i. student illness (verified by an appropriately licensed medical professional);

ii. religious holidays;

iii. mandated court appearances (documentation required);

iv. funeral or death in the family, or other emergency beyond the control of the student’s family;

v. extraordinary educational opportunities pre-approved by the District administrators and in accordance with Connecticut State Department of Education guidance and this regulation; or

vi. lack of transportation that is normally provided by a District other than the one the student attends.

c. A student, age five (5) to eighteen (18), inclusive, whose parent or legal guardian is an active duty member of the armed forces who has been called for duty, is on leave from or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, shall be granted ten (10) days of excused absences in any school year, and, in the discretion of the administration, additional excused absences to visit such student’s parent or legal guardian with respect to the parent’s leave or deployment. In the case of such excused absences, the student and parent or legal guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student’s teacher prior to any period of excused absence, and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student prior to the student’s return to school.
5. “In attendance” - any day during which a student is present at the student’s assigned school, and/or participating in an activity sponsored by the school (e.g., field trip) for at least half of the regular school day; and/or participating in statutorily authorized remote learning as determined through a combination of: synchronous virtual classes, synchronous virtual meetings, activities on time-logged electronic systems, and/or the completion and submission of assignments for at least half of the instructional school day.

6. “Mental health wellness day” - a school day during which a student attends to such student’s emotional and psychological well-being in lieu of attending school.

7. “Remote learning” means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model as may be authorized by the Watertown Board of Education (the “Board”) in accordance with applicable law.

8. "Student" - a student enrolled in the Watertown Public Schools (the “District”).

9. "Truant" - any student five (5) to eighteen (18) years of age, inclusive, who has four (4) unexcused absences from school in any one month or ten (10) unexcused absences from school in any school year.

10. "Unexcused absence" - any absence from a regularly scheduled school day for at least one half of the school day, which is not excused or considered a disciplinary absence.

The determination of whether an absence is excused will be made by the building principal or designee. Parents or other persons having control of the child may appeal that decision to the Superintendent or designee, whose decision shall be final.

B. Mental Health Wellness Days

Any student enrolled in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, shall be permitted to take two mental health wellness days during the school year, during which day such student shall not be required to attend school. No
student shall take mental health wellness days during consecutive school
days. Mental health wellness days shall be excused when permission by
the student’s parent/guardian is documented by the student’s school,
regardless of the number of absences a student has accrued in the school
year. Mental health wellness days will not be included in reporting or
referrals related to truancy. Mental health wellness day will count as an
“absence” for determining chronic absenteeism, as defined in Section II of
this policy.

C. Written Documentation Requirements for Absences

1. Written documentation must be submitted for each incidence of
absence within ten (10) school days of the student’s return to
school. Consecutive days of absence are considered one incidence
of absence.

2. The first nine (9) days of absence will be excused upon receipt of a
signed note from the student’s parent/guardian, a signed note from
a school official that spoke in person with the parent/guardian
regarding the absence, or a note confirming the absence by the
school nurse or by a licensed medical professional, as appropriate.

3. For the student’s tenth (10th) absence, and all absences thereafter,
documentation of the absence must be submitted in accordance
with paragraphs 1 and 2 above, and must also include the reason
for the absence and the following additional information:

a. student illness:

   i. a signed note from a medical professional, who may
      be the school nurse, who has evaluated the student
      confirming the absence and giving an expected
      return date; or

   ii. a signed note from school nurse who has spoken
       with the student’s medical professional and
       confirmed the absence, including the date and
       location of the consultation.

b. religious holidays: none.
c. mandated court appearances:
   i. a police summons;
   ii. a subpoena;
   iii. a notice to appear;
   iv. a signed note from a court official; or
   v. any other official, written documentation of the legal requirement to appear in court.

d. funeral or death in the family, or other emergency beyond the control of the student’s family: a written document explaining the nature of the emergency.

e. extraordinary educational opportunity pre-approved by the District administrators and in accordance with Connecticut State Department of Education guidance and this policy: written pre-approval from the administration, in accordance with this regulation.

f. lack of transportation that is normally provided by a District other than the one the student attends: none.

4. Neither e-mail nor text message shall serve to satisfy the requirement of written documentation. Under certain circumstances, a building administrator may, in the administrator’s own discretion, accept the delivery of written documentation through a scanned copy sent by e-mail.

5. The District reserves the right to randomly audit written documentation received, through telephone and other methods of communication, to determine its authenticity.

6. Any absence that is not documented in accordance with this regulation within ten (10) school days after the incidence of absence will be recorded as unexcused. If documentation is provided within ten (10) school days, but is incomplete, the building principal may, at the principal’s own discretion, grant up
to a five (5) school day extension for provision of the completed documentation.

D. Extraordinary Educational Opportunities

1. To qualify as an extraordinary educational opportunity, the opportunity must:
   a. be educational in nature and must have a learning objective related to the student’s course work or plan of study;
   b. be an opportunity not ordinarily available to the student;
   c. be grade and developmentally appropriate; and
   d. include content that is highly relevant to the student; while some opportunities will be relevant to all students, others will contain very specific content that would limit their relevance to a smaller group of students.

2. Family vacations do not qualify as extraordinary educational opportunities.

3. All requests for approval of extraordinary educational opportunities must:
   a. be submitted to the building principal in writing prior to the opportunity, but no later than ten (10) school days prior to the opportunity except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the building administrator;
   b. contain the signatures of both the parent/guardian and the student;
   c. include an outline of the learning objective of the opportunity and include detail as to how the objective is linked to the student’s coursework or plan of study; and
   d. include additional documentation, where available, about the opportunity.
4. The building principal shall provide a response in writing and include the following:
   a. either approval or denial of the request;
   b. brief reason for any denial;
   c. any requirements placed upon the student as a condition of approval;
   d. the specific days approved as excused absences for the opportunity; and
   e. the understanding that the building administrator may withdraw approval if the opportunity is canceled or the student fails to meet the agreed-upon requirements of the approval.

5. All decisions of the building principal relating to extraordinary educational opportunities shall be final.

6. Students who are granted excusal from school to participate in extraordinary educational opportunities are expected to share their experiences with other students and/or school staff when they return.

7. Approval for an extraordinary educational opportunity is determined on a case-by-case basis and the analysis of individualized factors. An opportunity approved for one student may not be approved for another.

E. Truancy Exceptions:

   1. A student five (5) or six (6) years of age shall not be considered truant if the parent or person having control over such student has appeared personally at the District office and exercised the option of not sending the child to school at five (5) or six (6) years of age.

   2. Until June 30, 2023, a student seventeen (17) years of age shall not be considered truant if the parent or person having control over such student consents to such student’s withdrawal from school.
Such parent or person shall personally appear at the District office and sign a withdrawal form indicating such consent. Such withdrawal form must include an attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator from the school that the District provided the parent (or person having control of the child) with information on the educational options available in the school system and community.

3. A student who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may withdraw from school. Such student shall personally appear in person at the school District office and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form must include an attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator from the school that the District provided such student with information on the educational options available in the school system and community.

4. Beginning July 1, 2023, a student seventeen (17) years of age shall not be considered truant if the parent or person having control over such child withdraws such child from school and enrolls such child in an adult education program pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-69. Such parent or person shall personally appear at the District office and sign an adult education withdrawal and enrollment form. Such adult education withdrawal and enrollment form shall include an attestation (1) from a school counselor or school administrator of the school that the District has provided such parent or person with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community, and (2) from such parent or person that such child will be enrolled in an adult education program upon such child’s withdrawal from school.

5. If a parent or guardian of an expelled student chooses not to enroll the student in an alternative program, the student shall not be considered to be “truant.”

F. Readmission to School Following Voluntary Withdrawal

1. Except as noted in paragraph 2 below, if a student voluntarily withdraws from school (in accordance with Section E.2 or E.4, above) and subsequently seeks readmission, the Board may deny school accommodations to the student for up to ninety (90) school days from the date of the student’s withdrawal from school.
2. If a student who has voluntarily withdrawn from school (in accordance with Section E.2 or E.4, above) seeks readmission within ten (10) school days of the student’s withdrawal, the Board shall provide school accommodations to the student not later than three (3) school days after the student requests readmission.

G. Determinations of Whether a Student is “In Attendance”:

1. A student serving an out of school suspension or expulsion shall be reported as absent unless the student receives an alternative educational program for at least half of the instructional school day. In any event, the absence is considered a disciplinary absence, and will not be designated as excused or unexcused.

2. On early dismissal days and days shortened due to inclement weather, the regular school day for attendance purposes is considered to be the amount of instructional time offered to students on that day. For example, if school is open for four hours on a shortened day scheduled, a student must be present for a minimum of two hours in order to be considered “in attendance.”

3. Students placed on homebound instruction due to illness or injury in accordance with applicable regulations and requirements are counted as being “in attendance” for every day that they receive instruction from an appropriately certified teacher for an amount of time deemed adequate in accordance with applicable law.

H. Procedures for students in grades K-8*

[*Note: State law mandates notification and monitoring only with regard to students in grades K-8. Boards of education are free, however, to extend the application of monitoring and intervention procedures to students at all grade levels. In addition, optional language for the District’s consideration appears in shaded bold italics, below.]

1. Notification
   a. Annually at the beginning of the school year and upon the enrollment of any child during the school year, the administration shall notify the parent or other person
having control of the student enrolled in grades K - 8 in writing of the obligations pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-184 to ensure that such a student attends school regularly or to show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the District.

b. Annually at the beginning of the school year and upon the enrollment of any child during the school year, the administration shall obtain from the parent or other person having control of the student in grades K-8 a telephone number or other means of contacting such parent or other person during the school day.

2. Monitoring

Each school shall implement a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences of students in grades K-8. Whenever such a student fails to report to school on a regularly scheduled school day, school personnel under the direction of the building principal [or designee] shall make a reasonable effort to notify the parent or other person having control of such student by telephone and by mail of the student's absence, unless school personnel have received an indication that the parent or other person is aware of the student's absence. [Reasonable efforts shall include two (2) attempts to reach the parent or other person at the telephone number provided by the parent or other person. Such attempts shall be recorded on a form provided by the Superintendent.] Any person who, in good faith, gives or fails to give such notice shall be immune from liability, civil or criminal, which might otherwise be incurred or imposed and shall have the same immunity with respect to any judicial proceeding which results from such notice or failure to give notice.

I. Procedures applicable to students ages five (5) to eighteen (18)

1. Intervention

   a. When a student is truant, the building principal or designee shall schedule a meeting with the parent (or other person having control of such student) and appropriate school
personnel to review and evaluate the reasons for the student's truancy. This meeting shall be held no later than **ten (10) days** after the student becomes truant. The District shall document the meeting, and if parent or other person declines to attend the meeting, or is otherwise non-responsive, that fact shall also be documented and the meeting shall proceed with school personnel in attendance.

b. When a student is truant, the Superintendent or designee shall coordinate services with and referrals of students to community agencies providing child and family services, as appropriate. The District shall document efforts to contact and include families and to provide early intervention in truancy matters.

c. When a student is truant, the Superintendent or designee shall provide notice to the student’s parent or guardian of the information concerning the existence and availability of the 2-1-1 Infoline program, and other pediatric mental and behavioral health screening services and tools described in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-22r.

d. Beginning July 1, 2023, when a student is truant, an appropriate school mental health specialist, as determined by the District, shall conduct an evaluation of the student to determine if additional behavioral health interventions are necessary for the well-being of the child. “School mental health specialist” means any person employed by the District to provide mental health services to students, including but not limited to a school social worker, school psychologist, trauma specialist, behavior technician, board certified behavior analyst, school counselor, licensed professional counselor or licensed marriage and family therapist.

e. If the Commissioner of Education determines that any school under the jurisdiction of the Board has a disproportionately high rate of truancy, the District shall implement in that school a truancy intervention model identified by the Department of Education pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-198e.

f. In addition to the procedures specified in subsections (a) through (c) above, a regular education student who is
experiencing attendance problems should be referred to the building Child Study Team [or other appropriate school based team] (the “Team”) to consider the need for additional interventions and/or assistance. The Team will also consider whether the student should be referred to a planning and placement team (“PPT”) meeting to review the student’s need and eligibility for special education. A special education student who is experiencing attendance problems should be referred to a PPT meeting for program review.

g. Where the documented implementation of the procedures specified in subsections (a) through (d) above does not result in improved outcomes despite collaboration with the parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee may, with written parental consent, refer a student who is truant to a Youth Service Bureau.

J. Attendance Records

All attendance records developed by the Board shall include the individual student’s state-assigned student identifier (SASID).

II. Chronic Absenteeism

A. Definitions for Section II

1. “Chronically absent child” - a child who is enrolled in a school under the jurisdiction of the Board and whose total number of absences at any time during a school year is equal to or greater than ten percent (10%) of the total number of days that such student has been enrolled at such school during such school year.

2. “Absence” - an excused absence, unexcused absence or disciplinary absence, as those terms are defined by the State Board of Education pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-198b and these administrative regulations.

3. “District chronic absenteeism rate” - the total number of chronically absent children under the jurisdiction of the Board in the previous school year divided by the total number of students under the jurisdiction of the Board for such school year.
4. “School chronic absenteeism rate” - the total number of chronically absent students for a school in the previous school year divided by the total number of students enrolled in such school for such school year.

B. Establishment of Attendance Review Teams

If the Board has a district chronic absenteeism rate of ten percent (10%) or higher, it shall establish an attendance review team for the District.

If a school under the jurisdiction of the Board has a school chronic absenteeism rate of fifteen percent (15%) or higher, it shall establish an attendance review team for that school.

If the Board has more than one school with a school chronic absenteeism rate of fifteen percent (15%) or higher, it shall establish an attendance review team for the District or at each such school.

If the Board has a district chronic absenteeism rate of ten percent (10%) or higher and one or more schools with a school chronic absenteeism rate of fifteen percent (15%) or higher, it shall establish an attendance review team for the District or at each such school.

C. Composition and Role of Attendance Review Teams

Any attendance review team established under these regulations may include school administrators, guidance counselors, school social workers, teachers, representatives from community-based programs who address issues related to student attendance by providing programs and services to truants, as defined under I.A.9, and chronically absent students and their parents or guardians.

Each attendance review team shall be responsible for reviewing the cases of truants and chronically absent students, discussing school interventions and community referrals for such truants and chronically absent students and making any additional recommendations for such truants and chronically absent children and their parents or guardians. Each attendance review team shall meet at least monthly.

D. State Chronic Absenteeism Prevention and Intervention Plan
The Board and its attendance review teams, if any, will consider any chronic absenteeism prevention and intervention plan developed by the State Department of Education.

III. Reports to the State Regarding Truancy Data

Annually, the Board shall include information regarding the number of truants and chronically absent children in the strategic school profile report for each school under its jurisdiction and for the District as a whole submitted to the Commissioner of Education. Measures of truancy include the type of data that is required to be collected by the Department of Education regarding attendance and unexcused absences in order for the department to comply with federal reporting requirements and the actions taken by the Board to reduce truancy in the District.

IV. Evolving State Department of Education and State Board of Education Guidance

The Board will comply with any and all guidance issued by the State Department of Education and/or State Board of Education regarding attendance requirements, including during periods of remote learning.

Legal References:

Public Act No. 22-47

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-220

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-184

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-186

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198a

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198b

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198c

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198d

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198e
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-198f


Connecticut State Board of Education Memorandum, *Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences* (June 27, 2012)


Connecticut State Department of Education Memorandum, *Mental Health Wellness Days* (January 24, 2022)

Connecticut State Department of Education Memorandum, *Adoption of Definition of Remote Absence* (September 7, 2022)

Connecticut State Board of Education Resolution (September 7, 2022)

APPROVED: BOE 5/13/2024R

REVISED: ____________

11/29/2022
SAMPLE NOTIFICATION REGARDING STUDENT ATTENDANCE*

Regular and punctual student attendance is essential to the educational process. Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-184 provides that “each parent or other person having control of a child five years of age and over and under eighteen years of age shall cause such child to attend a public day school regularly during the hours and terms the public school in the district wherein such child resides is in session, unless such child is a high school graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the public schools. For the school years commencing July 1, 2011, to July 2022, inclusive, the parent or person having control of a child seventeen years of age may consent, as provided in this section, to such child’s withdrawal from school. For the school year commencing July 1, 2023, and each school year thereafter, a student who is eighteen years of age or older may withdraw from school. Such parent, person or student shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation from a guidance counselor, school counselor or school administrator of the school that such school district has provided such parent, person or student with information on the educational options available in the school system and community. The parent or person having control of a child seventeen years of age may withdraw such child from school and enroll such child in an adult education program pursuant to [Connecticut General Statutes Section] 10-69. Such parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office and sign an adult education withdrawal and enrollment form. Such adult education withdrawal and enrollment form shall include an attestation (1) from a school counselor or school administrator of the school that such school district has provided such parent or person with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community, and (2) from such parent or person that such child will be enrolled in an adult education program upon such child's withdrawal from school. The parent or person having control of a child five years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is six years of age and the parent or person having control of a child six years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven years of age. The parent or person shall exercise such option by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form. The school district shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system.”

In order to assist parents and other persons in meeting this responsibility, the Watertown Board of Education (the “Board”) monitors unexcused student absences and makes reasonable efforts to notify parents or other persons by contacting them when a student fails to report to school. State law provides that any person who, in good faith,
gives or fails to give such notice shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, which might otherwise be incurred or imposed and shall have the same immunity with respect to any judicial proceeding which results from such notice or failure to give such notice. The Board, therefore, must obtain a telephone number or other means of contacting parents or other persons during the school day.

Please provide the following information and return the completed form, signed and dated to:

____________________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________

Student's Name: _______________________
Address: _______________________________________
____________________________________

School/grade: ___________________________ / _________________
Parent/Guardian's Daytime Telephone Number*: ___________________________
Parent/Guardian's Daytime Telephone Number*: ___________________________
Parent/Guardian E-mail Address: ___________________________
Daytime Telephone Number* of Other Person Having Control of Student: ________________ Relationship to Student: __________

*If no daytime telephone number is available, please specify other means by which school personnel may contact you during the school day. ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________
Date: ___________________________

[*Note: State law mandates notification only with regard to students in grades K-8. Boards of Education are free, however, to extend the notification to parents of students at all grade levels.]
## UNEXCUSED ABSENCES
### DOCUMENTATION LOG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>School Staff Member/ Volunteer</th>
<th>Student's Name</th>
<th>Parent or Other Person Having Control of Student</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Outcome*</th>
<th>Excused or Unexcused</th>
<th>Reason Absence is Excused or Unexcused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/26/17</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* No answer = N  
  Left Message = LM  
  Notification made = NM

7/26/17
Pursuant to guidelines from the Connecticut Department of Education, the Watertown Public Schools will consider certain extraordinary educational experiences to be excused absences. In order for an experience to qualify as an extraordinary educational experience, the opportunity must be educational in nature and must have a learning objective specifically related to the student’s coursework or plan of study. It is important to note that not all memorable and/or life experiences are considered extraordinary educational experiences for the purpose of an excused absence. In order to qualify, the experience must be an opportunity not ordinarily available to the student. The experience must be grade and developmentally appropriate and the content of the experience must be highly relevant to the individual student. Whether an experience fits the requirements of an extraordinary educational experience for the purpose of an excused absence is a determination within the discretion of the building principal or designee.

To request consideration of an experience as an extraordinary educational experience, the following form must be filled out, signed by the parent and student, and returned at least five (5) school days in advance of the date of the opportunity. Please note that approval is not assured. Approvals are awarded on a case-by-case basis and are based on a number of factors. An experience approved for one student does not guarantee that it will be approved for others.

Name of Student: ___________________________ Today’s Date: ________________

Title of Educational Opportunity: _______________________________________

Please describe the learning objective of the educational opportunity and how the objective is linked to the student’s coursework or plan of study (you may attach additional sheets):

_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

Date(s) of educational opportunity:
_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________
Dates and total number of days of planned absence:
____________________________________

Signature of Parent ______________________

Signature of Student ______________________

************************************************************************

For Office Use Only. Received by _____________ on ________. Approved? Yes/No By ____________.

7/29/21
MODEL FORM

[Board of Education/School Letterhead]
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OPTION FORM (CHILDREN AGE 5 OR 6)

Name of Child: ________________________ Date of Birth: ________________

Address of Child: ______________________________________________________

Name of Parent(s): ______________________________________________________

Address of Parent(s) (if different from child): ________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-184, the parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age or older and under age eighteen (18) is required to ensure that such child attends school. Section 10-184 further provides that a parent or person having control of a child age five (5) shall have the option of not sending the child to school until age six (6), and a parent or person having control of a child age six (6) shall have the option of not sending the child to school until age seven (7). A parent or person having control of such child who is seeking to elect this option must appear in person at the school district offices and sign this option form.

I, __________________, am the parent or person having control of, _______________, a child who is age five/six (circle appropriate age), and I elect not to send my child to school until the age of six/seven (circle appropriate age). I understand that this option is effective for only one (1) school year. By signing, I understand that if my child is currently age five (5) and I wish to elect next school year not to send my child to school, I must reappear at the school next year to elect this option. I further understand that if my child is currently age six (6), I am required by Section 10-184 to send my child to the public school, or demonstrate that the child is “elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the public schools,” when the child turns seven (7).

Signature: ______________________________ Date: __________________________

School Personnel Use Only

☐ Parent/person in control of child appeared in person and has been provided with information on the educational opportunities in the school system.
MODEL FORM

[Board of Education/School Letterhead]

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OPTION FORM (CHILDREN AGE 17)
[Note: This form should only be used through the 2022-2023 school year.]

Name of Child:_______________________ Date of Birth:_______________________

Address of Child:________________________________________________________

Name of Parent(s):________________________________________________________

Address of Parent(s) (if different from child):________________________________

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-184, the parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age or older and under age eighteen (18) is required to ensure that such child attends school.

Section 10-184 further provides that a parent or person having control of a student seventeen (17) years of age may consent to such student’s withdrawal from school. Such parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a withdrawal form indicating such consent. Such withdrawal form must include an attestation from a guidance counselor, school counselor or school administrator from the school that the district provided the parent (or person having control of the child) with information on the educational options available in the school system and community.

I, __________________, am the parent or person having control of, ________________,

Name of parent or person    Name of child

a child who is seventeen years of age, and I consent to my child’s withdrawal from school. I have personally appeared at the school district office and received information on the educational options available in the school system and community for my child.

Signature:_______________________________ Date:________________________

School Personnel Use Only

☐ Parent/person in control of child appeared in person and has been provided with information on the educational opportunities in the school system and community.

Signature:_______________________________ Date:________________________

Title: _____________________________

10/10/21

MODEL FORM
Note to districts: Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-184 provides that, for the school year commencing July 1, 2023 and each school year thereafter, a student who is eighteen years of age or older may withdraw from school, subject to certain conditions. This form may be used for students age eighteen or older who wish to withdraw from school beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

[Board of Education/School Letterhead]

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OPTION FORM (STUDENTS AGE 18)

Name of Student: ___________________________  Date of Birth: ___________________________

Address of Student: ________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-184, the parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age or older and under age eighteen (18) is required to ensure that such child attends school.

Section 10-184 further provides that, for the school year commencing July 1, 2023 and each school year thereafter, a student who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may withdraw from school. Such student shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an attestation from a guidance counselor, school counselor or school administrator of the school that such school district has provided such student with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community.

Withdrawal from School by Student Age 18 or Over

I, ____________________________, am a student of at least eighteen years of age, Name of student

and I hereby withdraw from school. I have personally appeared at the school district office and received information on the educational options available in the school system and community for me.

Signature: ____________________________  Date: __________________________

School Personnel Use Only

☐ Student appeared in person and has been provided with information on the educational opportunities in the school system and community.

Signature: ____________________________  Date: __________________________
MODEL FORM

[Board of Education/School Letterhead]

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OPTION FORM (CHILDREN AGE 17)

[Note to districts: Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-184 provides that, for the school year commencing July 1, 2023 and each school year thereafter, the parent or guardian of a student who is seventeen (17) years of age or older may withdraw such child from school if the parent or guardian consents to the student’s withdrawal and simultaneously enrolls the child in an adult education program. In accordance with these requirements, the district may use this form beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.]

Name of Child: ___________________________ Date of Birth: ___________________________

Address of Child: ________________________________________________________________

Name of Parent(s): _____________________________________________________________

Address of Parent(s) (if different from child): ______________________________________

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-184, the parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age or older and under age eighteen (18) is required to ensure that such child attends school.

Section 10-184 further provides that a parent or person having control of a student seventeen (17) years of age may consent to such student’s withdrawal from school if they simultaneously enroll such child in an adult education program pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-69. Such parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office and sign an adult education withdrawal and enrollment form. Such adult education withdrawal and enrollment form shall include an attestation (1) from a school counselor or school administrator of the school that such school district has provided such parent or person with information on the educational options available in the school system and in the community, and (2) from such parent or person that such child will be enrolled in an adult education program upon such child’s withdrawal from school.
I, __________________, am the parent or person having control of, _______________, 
Name of parent or person          Name of child

a child who is seventeen years of age. I hereby withdraw my child from school and attest that, 
upon my child’s withdrawal, I will enroll my child in an adult education program pursuant to 
Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-69. I have personally appeared at the school district 
office and received information on the educational options available in the school system and 
community for my child.

Signature:_____________________________    Date:________________________

School Personnel Use Only
☐ Parent/person in control of child appeared in person and has been provided with 
information on the educational opportunities in the school system and community.

Signature:_____________________________    Date:________________________

Title:____________________________________  

10/10/2021