

Per AUSD Board Policy 5113:

1. A student is allowed 10 days of excused absences due to illness in the school year.
2. Each absence beyond 10 days must be verified by a health professional, and the parent will not be allowed to write a note to excuse absences beyond the 10 days.
3. Parents have 10 calendar days to provide a valid reason to excuse an absence. If a valid reason is not provided within the 10 days, the absence is considered “unexcused”. State law declares a student truant when the student is tardy three times for more than 30 minutes each time, or if the student has 3 unexcused absences.
4. Parents of children with health issues or a chronic illness may complete a release of information form which authorized the school nurse to speak with the child’s doctor about the child’s health issues and how they impact school attendance.

The Board of Education implemented this policy to improve school attendance and make students and parents more accountable for the days the student is not in school. This policy is not intended to be punitive for the parent or student. Our goal is to work collectively so that your child can reach his/her potential. Please feel free to contact the attendance office staff, Intervention Advisor/School Counselor, or your school administrator should you have any questions regarding school attendance.

Together we can set the foundation to ensure your child is successful in the years to come.

TARDINESS

Children are expected to arrive to school on time daily. Please become familiar with your child’s school’s bell schedule. If a child is late, the child should bring an excuse from home to the school office. Frequent tardiness without a valid excuse is considered truancy under state law.

ATTENDANCE – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following is a brief summary of laws pertaining to compulsory education in California.

What is the law about school attendance?	Each person aged 6-18 who is not exempt from the law shall attend school each day on time. A student with three (3) or more unexcused absences or tardies in excess of thirty (30) minutes, or a combination of the two in one school year is deemed truant. (CEC §48200)
How do I report my child’s absence?	It is the parent’s responsibility to inform the school when the child is absent. Please call the school office to report the absence. When the parent does not call the school to report the absence, the parent must send a note with the student giving the date(s) and reason for the absence immediately upon student’s return to school. The note must include student first and last name, school ID# (if available), and be dated and signed by parent.
When is my child too sick to come to school?	A student should stay home from school when the student has a fever of 100°F or above. A student may return to school after 24 hours without a fever. The use of medication to reduce fever is not considered fever free. It is expected that parent will notify the school office of child’s absence.