

# ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Florida Statute 1003.24 states that each parent of a child of compulsory school age shall be responsible for each child's school attendance as required by law. The absence of a student from school is prima facie evidence of a violation of this section. Florida statute 1003.27(7)(1) states that a parent who refuses or fails to have a minor student who is under his/her control attend school regularly shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by law.

## Truancy

A student who has (5) unexcused absences within a calendar month, or ten (10) unexcused absences within a 90- calendar-day period would be considered a truant student.

## Providing an Absence Excuse

The preferred communication method is to email the school or to provide a note with your child for the reason of the absence.

## Excused Absences

Any child who is absent from school must present a written excuse signed by the parent or guardian immediately upon his/her return. The note must clearly indicate the reason for absence and must be presented within three (3) school days from the child's return to school. Please note that a phone call does not excuse your child's absence. An email will be accepted if it is submitted within three days of the absence.

Acceptable Excuses for Absence	Unacceptable Reasons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Illness, quarantine or obtaining professional health care or therapy from a licensed practitioner</li><li>• Family emergency</li><li>• Required court appearance</li><li>• Death in family</li><li>• Observance of a religious holiday observed by bona fide religious group, upon prior written parental request</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shopping visits</li><li>• Care for family members</li><li>• Days out to theme parks or to attend concerts or shows</li><li>• Parents work commitments or business trips</li><li>• </li></ul>