

Public Schools Branch

OPERATIONAL POLICY

ATTENDANCE AND ENGAGEMENT	
<i>Policy Section</i> Programs and Services	<i>Policy Number</i> 406
<i>Pages</i> 1	<i>Approved Date</i> September 19, 2016
<i>Reviewed Date</i>	<i>Effective Date</i> September 19, 2016
Replaces: ELSB Operational Policy 406 Attendance and Engagement, September 22, 2015	

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the Attendance and Engagement policy is to:
 - 1.1.1 Encourage maximum class attendance;
 - 1.1.2 Encourage students to apply their time and attention toward obtaining the maximum benefits of their education;
 - 1.1.3 Place the primary responsibility for school attendance upon students and parents/guardians;
 - 1.1.4 Provide a framework for addressing absenteeism;
 - 1.1.5 Emphasize the legal obligation for parents and the school board with respect to student attendance; and
 - 1.1.6 Reduce student absences.

2.0 POLICY STATEMENT

- 2.1 The Public Schools Branch believes that regular and punctual attendance at school is imperative for educational success. Students are expected to be in school each day unless ill or unable to attend due to an unavoidable circumstance.

3.0 PARAMETERS

- 3.1 The primary responsibility for school attendance rests with students and parents/guardians.
- 3.2 Schools have the responsibility for properly recording absences and lateness, notifying a parents/guardians when needed, and discouraging excessive absenteeism.
- 3.3 The Public Schools Branch has a responsibility to investigate frequent unexcused absences in accordance with the *Education Act*.

4.0 CROSS REFERENCE

- 4.1 Operational Procedure *406.1 Attendance and Engagement*
- 4.2 *Education Act*