

Haverhill School Committee
Policy JH

STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Several of the most important life skills which a school can help develop in students are those of Dependability (good attendance to school and classes); Punctuality (being on time and meeting time schedules); and Responsibility (knowing school rules and observing them). The General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts state that school attendance is compulsory up to the age of 16. The law further points out that good attendance is the joint responsibility of the student, the parent/guardian, and the school.

To practice learning, students must be in attendance. The policy of the Haverhill School Committee is that all students in the educational program shall be in regular attendance, respect all time schedules and avoid tardiness.

Further, the School Committee expects that parents/guardians will provide absence notes for students after an absence has occurred. Absence notes will explain, but not necessarily excuse an absence. Such notes will become a part of the student's file for that school year.

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