General Exhibits

October 3, 2023

Book

Policy Manual

Section

200 Pupils

Title

Attendance

Code

204 Vol IV 2022

Status

First Reading

Legal

1. 22 PA Code 11.41

2. 24 P.S. 1327

3. 24 P.S. 1329

4. 24 P.S. 1330

5. 22 PA Code 11.23

6. 22 PA Code 11.25

7. 22 PA Code 12.1

8. 24 P.S. 1326

9. 22 PA Code 11.13

10. 42 Pa. C.S.A. 6302

11. 24 P.S. 510.2

12. 24 P.S. 1332

13. 24 P.S. 1339

14. 22 PA Code 11.22

15. 22 PA Code 11.28

16. Pol. 113

17. Pol. 115

18. Pol. 116

19. Pol. 117

20. Pol. 118

21. 22 PA Code 11.34

22. 22 PA Code 11.32

23. 22 PA Code 11.5

24. 24 P.S. 1327.1

25. 22 PA Code 11.31

26. 22 PA Code 11.31a

27. Pol. 137

28. 22 PA Code 11.21

29. 22 PA Code 11.26

30. Pol. 251

31. 24 P.S. 1546

32. 24 P.S. 1333

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33. 24 P.S. 1333.1

34. 24 P.S. 1333.2

35. Pol. 103.1

36. Pol. 113.3

37. Pol. 114

24 P.S. 1333.3

22 PA Code 11.24

22 PA Code 11.8

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<u>Purpose</u>

The Board recognizes that attendance is an important factor in educational success, and supports a comprehensive approach to identify and address attendance issues. $[\underline{1}]$

Authority

The Board requires the attendance of all students during the days and hours that school is in session, except that temporary student absences may be excused by authorized district staff in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, Board policy and administrative regulations. [2][3][4][5][6][7]

Definitions

Compulsory school age shall mean the period of a student's life from the time the student's person in parental relation elects to have the student enter school, which shall be no later than six (6) years of age, until the student reaches eighteen (18) years of age. The term does not include a student who holds a certificate of graduation from a regularly accredited, licensed, registered or approved high school.[8][9]

Habitually truant shall mean six (6) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year by a student subject to compulsory school attendance.[8]

Truant shall mean having incurred three (3) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year by a student subject to compulsory school attendance. [8]

Person in parental relation shall mean a: [8]

- 1. Custodial biological or adoptive parent.
- 2. Noncustodial biological or adoptive parent.
- 3. Guardian of the person of a student.
- 4. Person with whom a student lives and who is acting in a parental role of a student.

This term shall not include any county agency or person acting as an agent of the county agency in the jurisdiction of a dependent child as defined by law. [10]

School-based or **community-based attendance improvement program** shall mean a program designed to improve school attendance by seeking to identify and address the underlying reasons for a student's absences. The term may include an educational assignment in an alternative education program, provided the program does not include a program for disruptive youth established pursuant to

Article XIX-C of the Pennsylvania Public School Code.[8]

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Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, persons in parental relation, staff and
{ } local children and youth agency
{ } local magisterial district judges
about the district's attendance policy by publishing such policy in student handbooks and newsletters, on the district website and through other efficient communication methods. $[1][11]$
{ } The Superintendent shall require the signature of the person in parental relation confirming that the policy has been reviewed and that the person in parental relation understands the compulsory school attendance requirements.
The Superintendent or designee, in coordination with the
<pre>{x } building principal,</pre>
{x} Attendance Officer,
{ } Home and School Visitor,
{ } (other),

shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations for the attendance of students which:

- 1. Govern the maintenance of attendance records in accordance with law. [12][13]
- 2. Detail the process for submission of requests and excuses for student absences.
- Detail the process for written notices, School Attendance Improvement Conferences, School
 Attendance Improvement Plans, and referrals to a school-based or community-based attendance
 improvement program, the local children and youth agency, or the appropriate magisterial district
 judge.
- Clarify the district's responsibility for collaboration with nonpublic schools in the enforcement of compulsory school attendance requirements.
- 5. $\{x\}$ Ensure that students legally absent have an opportunity to make up work.

Guidelines

Compulsory School Attendance Requirements

All students of compulsory school age who reside in the district shall be subject to the compulsory school attendance requirements. $[\underline{2}]$

A student shall be considered in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board; the student is receiving approved tutorial instruction, or health or therapeutic services; the student is engaged in an approved and properly supervised independent study, work-study or career education program; the student is receiving approved homebound instruction; or the student's

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placement is instruction in the home. [2][5][14][15][16][17][18][19][20]

The following students shall be excused from the requirements of attendance at district schools, upon request and with the required approval:

- 1. On certification by a physician or submission of other satisfactory evidence and on approval of the Department of Education, children who are unable to attend school or apply themselves to study for mental, physical or other reasons that preclude regular attendance.[3][4][21]
- 2. Students enrolled in nonpublic or private schools in which the subjects and activities prescribed by law are taught.[2][22]
- 3. Students attending college who are also enrolled part-time in district schools.[23]
- 4. Students attending a home education program or private tutoring in accordance with law. $[\underline{2}]$ [18][24][25][26][27]
- 5. Students fifteen (15) or sixteen (16) years of age whose enrollment in private trade or business schools has been approved. $[\underline{2}]$
- 6. Students fifteen (15) years of age, as well as students fourteen (14) years of age who have completed the highest elementary grade, engaged in farm work or private domestic service under duly issued permits.[4]
- 7. Students sixteen (16) years of age regularly engaged in useful and lawful employment during the school session and holding a valid employment certificate. Regularly engaged means thirty-five (35) or more hours per week of employment.[4][15]

Excused/Lawful Absence

For purposes of this policy, the following conditions or situations constitute reasonable cause for absence from school:

- 1. Illness, including if a student is dismissed by designated district staff during school hours for health-related reasons.[3][6]
- 2. Obtaining professional health care or therapy service rendered by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts in any state, commonwealth or territory.[3]
- 3. Quarantine.
- 4. Family emergency.
- 5. Recovery from accident.
- 6. Required court attendance.
- 7. Death in family.
- 8. Participation in a project sponsored by a statewide or countywide 4-H, FFA or combined 4-H and FFA group, upon prior written request. [1][3]
- 9. $\{x\}$ Participation in a musical performance in conjunction with a national veterans' organization or incorporated unit, as defined in law, for an event or funeral. [3]

- a. The national veterans' organization or incorporated unit must provide the student with a signed excuse, which shall include the date, location, and time of the event or funeral.
- b. The student shall furnish the signed excuse to the district prior to being excused from school.
- 10. $\{x\}$ Observance of a religious holiday observed by a bona fide religious group, upon prior written request from the person in parental relation.[28]
- 11. $\{x\}$ Nonschool-sponsored educational tours or trips, if the following conditions are met: [3][29]
 - a. The person in parental relation submits the required documentation for excusal prior to the absence, within the appropriate timeframe.
 - b. The student's participation has been approved by the Superintendent or designee.
 - c. { } The adult directing and supervising the tour or trip is acceptable to the person in parental relation and the Superintendent.

d. {	{ }	(other)	
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- 12. $\{x\}$ College or postsecondary institution visit, with prior approval.
- 13. Other urgent reasons that may reasonably cause a student's absence, as well as circumstances related to homelessness, foster care **and other forms of educational instability**.[3][6][30]

The district may limit the number and duration of

- $\{x\}$ nonschool-sponsored educational tours or trips
- {x} college or postsecondary institution visits

for which excused absences may be granted to a student during the school year.

Temporary Excusals -

The following students may be temporarily excused from the requirements of attendance at district schools:

- 1. Students receiving tutorial instruction in a field not offered in the district's curricula from a properly qualified tutor approved by the Superintendent, when the excusal does not interfere with the student's regular program of studies.[2][14][18]
- 2. Students participating in a religious instruction program, if the following conditions are met:[28][31]
 - a. The person in parental relation submits a written request for excusal. The request shall identify and describe the instruction, and the dates and hours of instruction.
 - b. The student shall not miss more than thirty-six (36) hours per school year in order to attend classes for religious instruction.
 - c. Following each absence, the person in parental relation shall submit a statement attesting

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that the student attended the instruction, and the dates and hours of attendance.

3. School age children unable to attend school upon recommendation of the school physician and a psychiatrist or school psychologist, or both, and with approval of the Secretary of Education.[21]

Parental Notice of Absence –
Absences shall be treated as unexcused until the district receives a written excuse explaining the absence, to be submitted within
{ } three (3)
{x} five (5)
{ } (other)
days of the absence.
A maximum of
{ } eight (8)
{x} ten (10)
{ } (other)
days of cumulative lawful absences verified by parental notification shall be permitted during a school year. All absences beyond
{ } eight (8)
{x} ten (10)
{ } (other)
cumulative days shall require an excuse from a licensed practitioner of the healing arts.
Unoversed/Unlawful Absence

<u>Unexcused/Unlawful Absence</u>

For purposes of this policy, absences which do not meet the criteria indicated above shall be permanently considered unexcused.

An out-of-school suspension may not be considered an unexcused absence.[8]

Parental Notification -

District staff shall provide prompt notice to the person in parental relation upon each incident of unexcused absence.

Enforcement of Compulsory Attendance Requirements

Student is Truant -

When a student has been absent for three (3) days during the current school year without a lawful excuse, district staff shall provide notice to the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student within ten (10) school days of the student's third unexcused absence.[32]

The notice shall: [32]

- 1. Be in the mode and language of communication preferred by the person in parental relation;
- 2. Include a description of the consequences if the student becomes habitually truant; and
- 3. When transmitted to a person who is not the biological or adoptive parent, also be provided to the student's biological or adoptive parent, if the parent's mailing address is on file with the school and the parent is not precluded from receiving the information by court order.

The notice may include the offer of a School Attendance Improvement Conference. [32]

If the student incurs additional unexcused absences after issuance of the notice and a School Attendance Improvement Conference was not previously held, district staff shall offer a School Attendance Improvement Conference.[32]

School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC) -

District staff shall notify the person in parental relation in writing and by telephone of the date and time of the SAIC.[32]

The purpose of the SAIC is to examine the student's absences and reasons for the absences in an effort to improve attendance with or without additional services. [8]

The following individuals shall be invited to the SAIC: [8]

- 1. The student.
- 2. The student's person in parental relation.
- 3. Other individuals identified by the person in parental relation who may be a resource.
- 4. Appropriate school personnel.
- Recommended service providers.

Neither the student nor the person in parental relation shall be required to participate, and the SAIC shall occur even if the person in parental relation declines to participate or fails to attend the scheduled conference.[32]

The outcome of the SAIC shall be documented in a written School Attendance Improvement Plan. The Plan shall be retained in the student's file. A copy of the Plan shall be provided to the person in parental relation, the student and appropriate district staff.[32]

The district may not take further legal action to address unexcused absences until the scheduled SAIC has been held and the student has incurred six (6) or more days of unexcused absences.[32]

Student is Habitually Truant -

When a student under fifteen (15) years of age is habitually truant, district staff: [33]

- 1. Shall refer the student to:
 - a. A school-based or community-based attendance improvement program; or
 - b. The local children and youth agency.

2. May file a citation in the office of the appropriate magisterial district judge against the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student.[33]

When a student fifteen (15) years of age or older is habitually truant, district staff shall:[33]

- 1. Refer the student to a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program; or
- 2. File a citation in the office of the appropriate magisterial district judge against the student or the person in parental relation who resides in the same household as the student.

District staff may refer a student who is fifteen (15) years of age or older to the local children and youth agency, if the student continues to incur additional unexcused absences after being referred to a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program, or if the student refuses to participate in such program.[33]

Regardless of age, when district staff refer a habitually truant student to the local children and youth agency or file a citation with the appropriate magisterial district judge, district staff shall provide verification that the school held a SAIC.[33]

Filing a Citation -

A citation shall be filed in the office of the appropriate magisterial district judge whose jurisdiction includes the school in which the student is or should be enrolled, against the student or person in parental relation to the student.[34]

Additional citations for subsequent violations of the compulsory school attendance requirements may only be filed against a student or person in parental relation in accordance with the specific provisions of the law.[34]

Special Needs and Accommodations

If a truant or habitually truant student may qualify as a student with a disability, and require special education services or accommodations, the Director of Special Education shall be notified and shall take action to address the student's needs in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy. [16][35][36][37]

For students with disabilities who are truant or habitually truant, the appropriate team shall be notified and shall address the student's needs in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy. [16][35][37]

Discipline

The district shall not expel or impose out-of-school suspension, disciplinary reassignment or transfer for truant behavior.[32]

NOTES:

Remove language on withholding of credit or automatic grade deductions for students with unexcused/illegal absences (based on court decision). May include language on deduction of class participation grades only, if in response to unexcused/illegal absences.

See additional explanation on court case and info. from School Law Handbook.

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EXHIBIT - G -

Book

Policy Manual

Section

200 Pupils

Title

Suspension and Expulsion

Code

233 Vol IV 2022

Status

First Reading

Legal

1. 22 PA Code 12.6

2. 22 PA Code 12.7

3. 22 PA Code 14.143

4. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq

5. 34 CFR Part 300

6. 22 PA Code 12.8

7. 24 P.S. 1318

8. 2 Pa. C.S.A. 101 et seq

9. 2 Pa. C.S.A. 101

10. Pol. 204

11. 24 P.S. 1326

12. Pol. 113

13. Pol. 113.1

14, Pol. 218

15. Pol. 216

16. Pol. 113.4

22 PA Code 12.3

<u>Purpose</u>

The Board recognizes that exclusion from the educational program of the schools, whether by suspension or expulsion, is the most severe sanction that can be imposed on a student and one that cannot be imposed without due process. The Board shall define and publish the types of offenses that would lead to exclusion from school. Exclusions affecting students with disabilities shall be governed by applicable state and federal law and regulations. [1][2][3][4][5]

Authority

The Board may, after a proper hearing, suspend or expel a student for such time as it deems necessary, or may permanently expel a student. [1][6][7]

Guidelines

Exclusion From School - Suspension

The principal or person in charge of the school may suspend any student for disobedience or misconduct for a period of one (1) to ten (10) consecutive school days and shall immediately notify the parent/guardian and the Superintendent in writing when the student is suspended. [1][7]

No student may be suspended without notice of the reasons for which **the student** is suspended and an opportunity to be heard on **their** own behalf before the school official who holds the authority to reinstate the student. Prior notice is not required where it is clear that the health, safety or welfare of the school population is threatened. Suspensions may not be made to run consecutively beyond the ten-school day period.[1]

When a suspension exceeds three (3) school days, the student and parent/guardian shall be given the opportunity for an informal hearing with the designated school official. Such hearing shall take place as soon as possible after the suspension, and the district shall offer to hold it within the first five (5) days of the suspension. [1][6]

Informal hearings under this provision shall be conducted by the

{x}	building principal.
{}	Superintendent.
{}	person in charge of the school.

Purpose of Informal Hearing

The purpose of the informal hearing is to permit the student to explain the circumstances surrounding the event leading to the suspension, to show why the student should not be suspended, and to discuss ways to avoid future offenses.[6]

<u>Due Process Requirements for Informal Hearing[6]</u>

- 1. The student and parent/guardian shall be given written notice of the reasons for the suspension.
- 2. The student and parent/guardian shall receive sufficient notice of the time and place of the informal hearing.
- 3. The student may question any witnesses present at the informal hearing.
- 4. The student may speak and produce witnesses who may speak at the informal hearing.
- 5. The district shall offer to hold the informal hearing within five (5) days of the suspension.

Exclusion From Class - In-School Suspension

No student may receive an in-school suspension without notice of the reasons for which **the student** is suspended and an opportunity to be heard prior to the time the suspension becomes effective. The parent/guardian shall be informed of the suspension action taken by the school. [2]

Should the in-school suspension exceed ten (10) consecutive school days, the student and parent/guardian shall be offered an informal hearing with the building principal. Such hearing shall take place prior to the eleventh day of the in-school suspension. The procedure shall be the same as the procedure for informal hearings held in connection with out-of-school suspensions. [2][6]

The district shall provide for the student's education during the period of in-school suspension. [2]

Expulsion

Expulsion is exclusion from school by the Board for a period exceeding ten (10) consecutive school days. The Board may permanently expel from the district rolls any student whose misconduct or disobedience warrants this sanction. No student shall be expelled without an opportunity for a formal hearing before [1][6][7]

- { } the Board,
- {x} a duly authorized committee of the Board,
- { } a qualified hearing examiner appointed by the Board,

and upon action taken by the Board after the hearing.

Expulsion Hearings

A formal hearing shall be required in all expulsion actions. [1][6][7][8]

The formal hearing shall observe the due process requirements of:[6]

- 1. Notification of the charges in writing by certified mail to the student's parent/guardian.
- 2. At least three (3) days' notice of the time and place of the hearing, which shall include a copy of this policy, hearing procedures and notice of the right to representation by legal counsel. A student may request the rescheduling of the hearing when **the student** demonstrates good cause for an extension.
- 3. The hearing shall be private unless the student or parent/guardian requests a public hearing.
- 4. Representation by counsel at the parent's/guardian's expense and parent/guardian may attend the hearing.
- 5. Disclosure of the names of witnesses against the student and copies of their written statements or affidavits.
- 6. The right to request that witnesses against the student appear in person and answer questions or be cross-examined.
- 7. The right to testify and present witnesses on the student's behalf.
- 8. A written or audio record shall be kept of the hearing and a copy made available to the student at the student's expense, or at no charge if the student is indigent.
- 9. The hearing shall be held within fifteen (15) school days of the notice of charges, unless a delay is mutually agreed to by both parties or is delayed by:
 - a. The need for laboratory reports from law enforcement agencies.
 - b. Evaluations or other court or administrative proceedings are pending due to a student's invoking **their** rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

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- c. Delay is necessary due to the condition or best interests of the victim in cases of juvenile or criminal court involving sexual assault or serious bodily injury.
- 10. Notice of a right to appeal the results of the hearing shall be provided to the student with the expulsion decision.

Adjudication

A written adjudication shall be issued after the Board has acted to expel a student. The adjudication may include additional conditions or sanctions.[9]

Attendance/School Work During Suspension and Prior to Expulsion

Students serving an out-of-school suspension must make up missed exams and work, and shall be permitted to complete assignments pursuant to established guidelines. [1][10]

Students who are facing an expulsion hearing must be placed in their normal classes if the formal hearing is not held within the ten-school day suspension.

If it is not possible to hold the formal hearing within the first ten (10) school days, the school district may exclude such a student from class for up to five (5) additional – fifteen (15) total – school days if, after an informal hearing, it is determined that the student's presence in **their** normal class would constitute a threat to the health, safety or welfare of others.

Any further exclusion prior to a formal hearing may be only by mutual agreement. Such students shall be given alternative education, which may include home study.

Attendance/School Work After Expulsion

Students who are under **eighteen (18)** years of age are still subject to compulsory school attendance even though expelled and shall be provided an education. [1][10][11]

The parent/guardian has the initial responsibility of providing the required education and shall, within thirty (30) days, submit written evidence to the school that the required education is being provided or that they are unable to do so. If the parent/guardian is unable to provide for the required education, the school district shall, within ten (10) days of receipt of the parent's/guardian's notification, make provision for the student's education.

The Board may provide an educational program to the student immediately upon expulsion and may waive the 30-day period, at its discretion.

Students With Disabilities

A student with a disability shall be provided educational services as required by state and federal laws and regulations and Board policies.[12][13]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy which include:

1. Publication of a Code of Student Conduct, in accordance with Board policy on student

discipline.[14]

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- 2. Procedures that ensure due process when a student is being deprived of the right to attend school.
- 3. Regulations regarding student records which require that records of disciplinary suspension be maintained in accordance with Board policy on student records.[15][16]
- 4. The name of a student who has been disciplined shall not become part of the agenda or minutes of a public meeting, nor part of any public record of the Board. Such students may be designated by code.
- 5. Any student who has been expelled may apply for readmission to school upon such conditions as may be imposed by the Board.

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MARYWOOD UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING MSW FIELD EDUCATION AGREEMENT 2023-2024

This agreement is made this the day of 2023 by and between Marywood University, School of Social Work, MSW program (hereinafter referred to as "SSW") and Agency (hereinafter referred to as "Field Placement"). The parties participating in this educational agreement bear responsibilities set forth in the following section.

A. SSW will provide:

- 1. One or more students who are enrolled in the required course of study for the placement.
- 2. The Director of Field Education or designee, as a resource for facilitating the field experience.
- 3. A Faculty Liaison who will serve as the primary contact for the Field Instructor and who will:
 - a. maintain expectations of the MSW Program for the field experience through regular contacts with the student and the Field Instructor;
 - b. review and provide input into the Learning Agreement and the evaluations, and respond to their content;
 - c. mediate problem situations between the student and the Field Placement;
 - d. serve as a conduit for information and communication between classroom faculty and Field Instructors;
 - e. promote awareness of the student needs, and maximize educational opportunities in both the classroom and the field.
- 4. Student liability insurance coverage for the student in field placement, as well as the Faculty Liaison.
- 5. The resource manual "MSW Program Field Manual" to the Field Instructor.
- 6. Continuing Education opportunities to the Field Instructor; the scope of which is determined by the SSW.
- 7. Mentoring and consultation (off-site) of student research project if conducted under the auspice of the Field Placement.

- B. The Field Placement will provide:
 - 1. An MSW level professional with at least two (2) years of post-master's experience who will serve as the Field Instructor.
 - 2. The Field Instructor will:
 - a. orient the student to the Field Placement setting and staff policies and procedures;
 - b. develop the Learning Agreement with the student with input from the School;
 - c. provide task assignments to the student;
 - d. meet with the student for regular (one hour per week) supervisory conferences to cover the range of service and learning experiences the student is undertaking at the Field Placement;
 - e. review Process Recordings/Journal Reflections in a timely manner;
 - f. confer with Faculty Liaison as necessary;
 - g. as able attend essential meetings for Field Instructors as provided;
 - h. complete the end of semester evaluations and discuss the evaluation with the student and Field Liaison;
 - 3. Adequate workspace to allow the student to complete task assignments.
 - 4. Adequate Field Placement resources to complete task assignments.
 - 5. Agreement to follow the procedures for Field as outlined in the SSW's "Field Manual."
 - 6. To the extent possible, support for student research, including access to case records, materials for conducting surveys in order to maintain client confidentiality and anonymity, and/or access to participants for interviews.

Marywood University School of Social Work, MSW program and The Field Placement agree to abide by the School's Discontinuance Policy should there be serious deficiencies in the student's performance. Deficiencies are specified by the School and the Field Placement, and the Program process is outlined in the Field Manual will be followed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed on the date indicated below.

For the School of Social Work:	For the Field Placement:	
Signature:	Signature:	
Print Name:	Print Name:	
Title:	Title:	
Date:	Date:	