

1 **St. Regis School District**

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3 **STUDENTS**

4
5 Attendance Policy

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7 Philosophy

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9 The Board, administration, and faculty of the St. Regis Schools believe that students= full-time
10 attendance and parents' participation are necessary in order for schools to provide a meaningful
11 educational experience. Regular attendance of a child in a formal educational setting is
12 mandated by state laws and this policy. This is based on the concept that a valid educational
13 process rests upon the foundation of providing continuity in instruction, classroom participation,
14 and learning experiences.

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16 The state maintains control over many aspects of education, including curriculum, teacher and
17 administration certification, and attendance. The fact that states retain extensive obligations in
18 regard to education is based on this nation's historical imperative of providing free public
19 education. It is the consensus of the American public that in order for our democracy to succeed,
20 it must produce an educated citizenry. State and local school officials view regular full-time
21 attendance as a direct reflection of the importance parents place on their child's education.
22 Attendance reflects not only on the parents' commitment but on the student's attitude toward
23 the educational process.

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25 Excessive absenteeism compromises a child's ability to fully benefit from educational
26 experiences offered by public schools. In addition, truancy has been identified as a major factor
27 in causing deficiencies in learning, problem-solving, and coping skills. Truancy patterns also
28 show a high correlation with theft, shoplifting, vandalism, and other crime-related activities.
29 Therefore, identification of and intervention with truancy offenders assume a very broad
30 perspective which can greatly improve the school's ability to report and create early intervention
31 strategies involving parental cooperation.

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33 First, in order to facilitate full-time enrollment and attendance of children living within the
34 District, this policy is designed to encourage parental cooperation at the various stages of
35 intervention, with strict legal sanctions being universally applied in all cases of noncompliance.
36 Second, school personnel will be linked to other involved state and local child-serving agencies.
37 Third, the policy will promote early identification and tracking of children exhibiting excessive
38 absenteeism.

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40 Policy Objectives

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42 1. To secure full cooperation of parents in order to facilitate student attendance.
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44 2. To provide a clear understanding of the rights and responsibilities of parents, students,
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3 school personnel, and public service agencies in regard to student attendance.

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5 3. To provide a consistent and accurate system of reporting student attendance.
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7 4. To promote development of a positive student attitude toward regular attendance and
8 education.
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10 5. To increase at-risk student attendance by providing a comprehensive truancy
11 identification and treatment intervention strategy.
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13 Rights

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15 1. Students have a legal right to an appropriate education, which cannot be denied by
16 parental action or inaction.
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18 2. Parents have a legal right to determine when their children can be excused from attending
19 school instruction, according to Board policy.
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21 3. School personnel have a legal right to enforce compulsory education laws and regulations
22 in an equitable and uniform manner.
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24 Responsibilities

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26 1. Students have the responsibility of participating in the educational opportunities offered,
27 by attending school on a regular basis.
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29 2. Parents have the responsibility of supporting District attendance policies by ensuring the
30 regular attendance of their children and by cooperating with school personnel.
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32 3. All District personnel are expected to become familiar with the procedures of this policy
33 and to execute them in a uniform manner and in good faith.
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37 Policy History:

38 Adopted on: March 8, 2006

39 Revised on: