

NOTE 1: State law requires the local Board of Education to designate an attendance officer for the district to enforce the provisions of the compulsory attendance law, counsel students and parents, and investigate the causes of non-attendance and report those findings to the Board. C.R.S. 22-33-107(1) State law allows the board by resolution to authorize one or more school employees to represent the school district in judicial proceedings to enforce compulsory attendance. C.R.S. 22-32-110(1)(mm).

NOTE 2: State law provides that court proceedings to compel compliance with the compulsory attendance law shall only be used as a last-resort approach for addressing the problem of truancy. The district shall first have attempted other options for addressing truancy that employ best practices and research-based strategies to minimize the need for court action. C.R.S. 22-33-108(5)

NOTE 3: It is up to the local Board to allow, deny or give partial credit for make-up work completed following an unexcused absence. CASB recommends that the district's philosophy regarding make-up work be consistent throughout the attendance and discipline policies. In accordance with state law on educational opportunities during suspension, the objective should be to reintegrate the student back into the classroom after sufficient remediation opportunities are provided. The penalty should not be so severe as to limit the student's ability to succeed academically in the future. See C.R.S. 22-33-105 (3)(d)(III).

NOTE 4: The rules of the State Board of Education define an "habitual truant" as a child who has attained the age of 6 on or before August 1 of the school year in question and is under the age of 17 and who has 4 days of unexcused absences from school in a month or 10 days of unexcused absences during the school year. Beginning in the 2009-10 school year, school districts must report the number of students identified as "habitually truant" to the Colorado Department of Education, in accordance with the State Board of Education's rules regarding the calculation of student attendance and truancy, 1 CCR 301-78. CDE must then make this information accessible to the public by posting it on its website. The State Board's rules also specify how districts shall record and aggregate student absences.

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