

1 **Potomac Elementary**

2
3 **STUDENTS**

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5
6 Compulsory Attendance

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8 To reach the goal of maximum educational benefits for every child requires a regular continuity
9 of instruction, classroom participation, learning experiences, and study. Regular interaction of
10 students with one another in classrooms and their participation in instructional activities under
11 the tutelage of competent teachers are vital to the entire process of education. This established
12 principle of education underlies and gives purpose to the requirement of compulsory schooling in
13 every state in the nation. A student’s regular attendance also reflects dependability and is a
14 significant component of a student’s permanent record.

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16 Parents or legal guardians or legal custodians are responsible for seeing that their children who
17 are age seven (7) or older before the first (1st) day of school attend school until the later of the
18 following dates:

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20 1. Child’s sixteenth (16th) birthday; or
21 2. Completion date of the work of eighth (8th) grade.
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23 The provisions above do not apply in the following cases:

- 24 • The child has been excused under one of the conditions specified in 20-5-102
25 • The child is absent because of illness, bereavement, or other reason prescribed by the
26 policies of the trustees.
27 • The child has been suspended or expelled under the provisions of 20-5-202
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29 Compulsory attendance stated above will not apply when children:

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31 1. Are provided with supervised correspondence or home study; or
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33 2. Are excused because of a determination by a district judge that attendance is not in the
34 best interests of the child; or
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36 3. Are enrolled in a non-public or home school; or
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38 4. Are enrolled in a school in another district or state; or
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40 5. Are excused by the Board on a determination that attendance after age of sixteen (16) is
41 not in the best interests of a child and a school.
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43 Legal Reference: § 20-1-308, MCA Religious instruction released time program
44 § 20-5-101, MCA Admittance of child to school
45 § 20-5-102, MCA Compulsory enrollment and excuses
46 § 20-5-103, MCA Compulsory attendance and excuses

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| § 20-5-104, MCA | Attendance officer |
| § 20-5-106, MCA | Truancy |
| § 20-5-107, MCA | Incapacitated and indigent child attendance |
| § 20-5-108, MCA | Tribal agreement with district for Indian child compulsory attendance and other agreements |
| <u>§</u> 20-5-202, MCA | Suspension and Expulsion |

Policy History:

Adopted on: December 13, 2010
Reviewed on: September 10, 2012
Revised on: October 9, 2012