

Attendance Reporting for Virtual Learning

Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-13-91 makes education for any child between the ages of 6 and 17 compulsory, requires schools to report daily attendance, and requires referrals to other entities when attempts to secure enrollment and/or attendance of a compulsory-school-age child are unable to effect the enrollment and/or attendance.

Existing regulations governing the collection of attendance assume physical presence. Beginning with the 2020 – 2021 school year, attendance shall be collected as follows:

Schools shall report daily attendance using the following types: traditional (in-person) and virtual (i.e., online/distance learning).

For in-person attendance, consistent with existing regulations, a student will be marked present or absent.

For virtual (online/distance learning) attendance, the student shall be marked present or absent based on the following criteria:

For a student to be marked present when attending school through virtual learning, the LEA shall meet one (1) of the following conditions: • If the LEA uses a learning management system (LMS), the student shall be authenticated and engaged in education consistent with the LEA's prescribed policy;

If the LEA does not use an LMS, the LEA shall make one-on-one contact with a student for the day to authenticate their presence and provide daily evidence of engagement consistent with the LEA's policy.

The Tunica County School District will implement a virtual learning schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. The following procedures will be followed:

Students will login-in daily through Canvas.

Instructional days for students will be Monday-Friday.

Teachers will be available by email, phone or online 8:00 a.m - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. on those days.

Teachers are encouraged to create a “google voice number” and utilize it in conjunction with the Canvas app to communicate with parents.

Teachers will be expected to provide new lessons and activities each week.

The Mississippi Department of Education requires that attendance be taken daily. In order to be considered “in attendance,” students are expected to interact and respond to their teachers every day. This may include any of the following:

Video Meetings and/or live class sessions

Chat participation (directly with teacher or as part of a teacher facilitated group chat)

- NOTE: During live class sessions, students are required to keep their cameras on. If cameras are not on, students will NOT be marked present.

Attendance is not based solely on assignment completion. Families will be contacted if students do not complete the other means of communication to verify attendance.

Other Important Information Regarding Student Attendance:

- Teachers will be required to do roll call for every class each day.
- Teachers will be required to submit an attendance report to the school attendance clerk at the end of each school day.
- If a student is ill and cannot login, parents will need to call the school to report the absence.
- If a student does not log in to Canvas, they will be marked absent for the day.
- Absences will be reported to the school district’s truancy officer according to board policy.