

Attendance Incentive Policy

It is recognized that there will be circumstances beyond the control of a student that will cause that student to be absent. However, to fairly evaluate the merits of each absence is impossible. An attendance exemption is a privilege that must be earned based on the following criteria: A student who has perfect or near perfect attendance during a semester will be allowed to waive one of his/her final exams for that semester, subject to the following conditions:

1. Near perfect attendance is defined as no more than a total of 15 classes missed during a given semester. A maximum of three absences is allowed in any one class.
2. Two tardies will equal one absence. Note that a total of three absences and one tardy are sufficient to lose an exemption.
3. In the event of a death in a student's immediate family, that student is to contact the Principal before or immediately after the absence. A note will be given to the student with a copy to each teacher concerned. A copy will be placed in the student's cumulative record. These absences will not count for this policy.
4. School suspensions will count against the student as it is the student's behaviour that caused the suspension.
5. Students who are absent from a class because of school sponsored co-curricular or extracurricular activities or because of other reasons for which the school or school district is responsible (e.g. late buses) will be deemed present for the purpose of this policy. Any other absences will be regarded as absences, without distinguishing between those which are acceptable and those which are not. If a student sustains an injury during a school activity and misses excessive classes, that student will not be eligible for an exemption.
6. It is the student's responsibility to advise the subject teacher before (if possible) or immediately after the absence if the absence is school related.
7. The student's behaviour must be deemed positive and acceptable by the teacher in whose subject the exemption is being granted. Also, all assignments, tests, and projects must be satisfactorily completed.
8. In the event of a discrepancy between the computer records and the teacher's records, the teacher's records will be considered the correct source of information.
9. A student can not eliminate an exam in a course which he/she is failing.
10. The students mark on a course for which the final exam has been waived will be based on the student's class mark for the course.
11. A student must be enrolled full time during a semester to be eligible for an exemption.
12. A student may choose to exempt only one of two exams in year-long courses.
13. Consideration will be given to students who attend diabetic or asthma teaching clinics. These absences must be approved by the Principal in consultation with the appropriate doctor.
14. Students who are absent from subject class because of participation on a Provincial team that is competing at a national competition will be deemed present for the purpose of this policy. It is the responsibility of the student to inform his/her subject teacher.
15. All fines, fees, and textbook records must be clear.
16. Students who are exempt may write the exam. The exam will count only if it raises their grade.
17. There are NO appeals for exam exemption purposes.
18. No District or Provincial exam may be exempt.