

**TITLE XV
EDUCATION
CHAPTER 193
PUPILS
School Attendance
Section 193:1**

193:1 Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil. –

I. A parent of any child at least 6 years of age and under 16 years of age shall cause such child to attend the public school to which the child is assigned in the child's resident district. Such child shall attend full time when such school is in session unless:

(a) The child is attending a public school outside the district to which the child is assigned or an approved private school for the same time;

(b) The child is receiving home education; or

(c) The relevant school district superintendent has excused a child from attendance because the child is physically or mentally unable to attend school, or has been temporarily excused upon the request of the parent for purposes agreed upon by the school authorities and the parent. Such excused absences shall not be permitted if they cause a serious adverse effect upon the student's educational progress. Students excused for such temporary absences may be claimed as full-time pupils for purposes of calculating state aid under RSA 186-C:18 and adequate education grants under RSA 198:41.

II. A child who reaches the sixth birthday after September 30 shall not be required to attend school under the provisions of this section until the following school year.

III. In this section, "parent" means a parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of a child.

IV. Any child at least 16 years of age and under 18 years of age who wishes to terminate such child's public or nonpublic education prior to graduating from high school shall do so only after a conference with the principal, or designee. The principal shall request a conference with the parent, guardian, or other custodian. Written approval of withdrawal must be received from such child's parent, guardian, or other person residing in the state and having custody or charge of such child. The written approval shall be dated and the signature witnessed by the principal of the school where the child is in attendance, or the principal's designee.

Source. 1903, 13:1. 1911, 139:1. 1917, 52:1. 1919, 84:1. 1921, 85, III:1. PL 118:1. RL 137:1. 1949, 92:1. 1953, 223:1. RSA 193:1. 1985, 47:1. 1990, 279:1. 1994, 121:1, eff. Jan. 1, 1995. 1996, 157:1, eff. May 31, 1996. 1997, 183:1, eff. Jan. 1, 1998. 1999, 17:42, eff. April 29, 1999; 39:1, eff. July 10, 1999.

**TITLE XV
EDUCATION
CHAPTER 189
SCHOOL BOARDS, SUPERINTENDENTS, TEACHERS,
AND TRUANT OFFICERS; SCHOOL CENSUS
Truant Officers**

Section 189:36

189:36 Duties. – Truant officers shall, when directed by the school board, enforce the laws and regulations relating to truants and children between the ages of 8 and 16 years not attending school and without any regular and lawful occupation; and the laws relating to the attendance at school of children between the ages of 8 and 18 years; and shall have authority without a warrant to take and place in school any children found employed contrary to the laws relating to the employment of children, or violating the laws relating to the compulsory attendance at school of children under the age of 18 years, and the laws relating to child labor.

Source. 1852, 1278. CS 78:2. GS 83:7. GL 91:7. 1881, 42:3. PS 92:17. 1899, 70:2. 1911, 162:16. 1921, 85, II:19. PL 117:32. RL 135:36. RSA 189:36. 1973, 72:29, eff. June 3, 1973.

**TITLE XV
EDUCATION
CHAPTER 193
PUPILS
School Attendance**

Section 193:16

193:16 Bylaws as to Nonattendance. – Districts may make bylaws, not repugnant to law, concerning habitual truants and children between the ages of 6 and 16 years not attending school and not having a regular and lawful occupation, and to compel the attendance of such children at school; failure to comply with such bylaws shall constitute a violation for each offense.

Source. 1852, 127:8. CS 78:1. GS 83:6. GL 91:6. PS 93:6. 1921, 85, III:13. PL 118:15. RL 137:15. RSA 193:16. 1973, 531:48, eff. at 11:59 p.m., Oct. 31, 1973.

Kenneth A. Brett School 2012-2013 Student-Parent Handbook

Attendance Procedures

If a student is to be absent, parents/guardians should contact the school prior to 9:30 AM. Prior to 8:30 AM, please call 323-7271, x396 to leave a message indicating your child's name, grade and reason for the absence. It is our moral obligation to provide for the health and welfare of each child to account for his/her whereabouts during the school day. Additionally, in compliance with mandatory attendance laws, parents should provide a written note on the first day back to school after an absence indicating the reason for the absence. **When a child is absent from school and we do not hear from parents, we will call either the home or the parents' place of work.**

A student who is to be dismissed early should bring a note signed by the parent/guardian to the office before 9:30 AM. Parents/guardians may be called to verify the early dismissal. **When a child is to be excused early from school, the parent/guardian must stop in the office to confirm the dismissal and sign their child out when the child is picked up.** In emergency situations, parents/guardians may have their child dismissed by phoning the school. The student must check out from the school office before leaving.

If your child is out sick from school, he/she is not allowed to participate in a school related extra-curricular program (examples: school dance, skiing, sports team, after school program music performance, etc.) on the day of the absence.

If the school has to close early because of bad weather or a problem with the school's normal operation, every effort will be made to notify parents/guardians prior to dismissal. In any event, parents/guardians should have a place that their child can go in case of such as emergency. Emergency lists are kept at the school. Parents/guardians should keep these updated.

Family Trips that require a student to be absent from school for an extended period of time require at least one week advance notice to teachers and the principal. Such trips will be accommodated when the student's attendance record and academic performance are in good standing. Parents/guardians should fill out a "**Family / Educational Trip Notice**" and submit it to the school principal.

Make-up work should be completed as soon as possible after a student returns to school from a period of absence. Parents and guardians are discouraged from keeping children out of school for reasons other than illness. It has often been shown that poor attendance and poor grades go together. Improving one invariably improves the other.

Tardiness to school should be avoided. Students who report to school after 8:45AM are considered tardy to school and should report to the office where a pass will be issued to enter class. Parents/guardians of students who are frequently tardy will be notified.