

The New America School-New Mexico

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY DURING PANDEMIC PERIOD(S)

Students are expected to attend in-person or remote instructional programs, as provided by the School, each day. Attendance will be officially recorded and reported to the New Mexico Public Education Department, whether school is conducted online or in-person. The school further will track online participation. The New Mexico Attendance for Success Act requires that districts and charter schools provide interventions to students based on the percentage of absences students have accrued.

Hybrid Model: For hybrid learning models in which students attend in-person classes on some days of the week and participate in remote learning on other days of the week, attendance shall be taken by teachers for both in-person and remote instructional classes and school programs. Accurate attendance data shall be documented and reported by the School, in accordance with the Attendance for Success Act. Teachers will track student engagement and whether or not students are logging on to online instructional activities or otherwise using other means to participate in a class/activity, and the School will maintain this data. The School will monitor those students who are not participating or engaging with online instructional activities and provide supports as appropriate.

Every student enrolled at NAS-NM is enrolled in two Advisory classes, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Attendance is taken through daily assignments in those advisory classes. If the assignment is not completed, it will be marked that the student was not in attendance for that portion of the day. On days when students are doing work from home, completion of the advisory assignment will denote the student's presence for the day. If students are unable to log in, they must contact their assigned NAS-NM Truancy Officer to make a note of it and they will be marked present for the day.

NAS-NM does provide school technology equipment to students who do not have access at home. In addition, students who do not have access to the internet may make appointments to utilize the school computer labs, or will be given a list of available free public wifi hotspots in the community that a student can use. For assistance in accessing the internet for online learning, or in checking out a school laptop to enable a student to do schoolwork, please contact Sammy Orr at 505-222-4360 if you/your student requires assistance with remote participation/engagement methods.

If campus is closed, and remote-only instructional model is implemented due to emergency, attendance shall continue to be taken and reported to the NMPED, pursuant to this policy and the Attendance for Success Act. Students will be expected to participate in remote learning during any campus closure period(s) as scheduled.

Failure to attend and/or participate in instructional classes and school programs shall result in processes being implemented pursuant to the School's Attendance Policy and the Attendance for Success Act (see student/parent handbook). Meetings that need to be held with parents/guardians pursuant regarding attendance may be held via videoconference or teleconference in lieu of in-person.

Medical and other excused absences: Absences due to medical conditions may be excused absences if the status of the student is disclosed to appropriate school personnel and if relevant documentation is provided as per the existing School attendance policies. Students will be allowed to make up schoolwork missed due to excused medical absences. Excused medical absences, including medical absences for students on 504 plans and students who are expectant or parenting, are included when determining students' attendance intervention tiers. However, for students who are excessively absent (students missing 20 percent or more of class periods or school days), additional excused medical absences need not be considered when determining whether a student must be referred to the probation services office.

Optional Online-Only program: For optional online instructional programs that the school may employ to better meet the needs of some families, and in which families may choose whether or not to participate, attendance will be regularly taken and reported for program participants, and students will be supported with appropriate interventions in accordance with the Attendance for Success Act.

Adopted by the Governing Council on August 12, 2020.