

ENTHEOS ACADEMY

EXCELLENCE • SERVICE • LEADERSHIP

5201 LEARNER VALIDATED PROGRAM

Purpose

As outlined in R277-419, participating in online learning courses does count in calculating membership at Entheos Academy. This policy outlines standards and measures for determining enrollment and attendance in learning programs beyond in-person classroom instruction, when utilized.

Policy

Entheos Academy designates the following as Learner Validated Enrollment Measurements to document the student's enrollment status in lieu of conducting a daily attendance check:

- I. Evidence that validates student learning, such as completion of:
 - A. Weekly iReady minutes
 - B. Weekly projects, assignments, and assessments
- II. Evidence that validates student participation:
 - A. Attendance at virtual classes
- III. Evidence that validates student communication, including:
 - A. Emails from students, or messages from students via Bloomz
 - B. Conversations by phone
 - C. Assignment pick up and drop off

Entheos Academy will document continued enrollment status including the frequency of reporting and how it will track at-home learning days as follows:

Hybrid Attendance

For students who attend school in a hybrid model, during their in-person learning days, attendance will be taken in a traditional manner. For at-home days, attendance will be marked as follows:

- I. If the student does not complete any at-home work that week, the teacher will go back and mark that student absent for their at-home days.
- II. If the student completes approximately half or less of their work, the student will be marked as absent for a half day.

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- III. If the student completes more than half their work, the student will be marked as present.

Distance Learning Attendance

For students who attend school in a Distance Learning only format, their attendance is taken by their teachers during the students' virtual online classes.¹

- I. If the student does not attend their daily class/classes, the student is marked absent.
- II. If an elementary student attends their daily class/classes but leaves class early, they will be marked as having attended for half days. If a middle school student only attends half or less of half their daily classes, they will be marked as having attended for a half day.
- III. If the student attends their daily class. They will be marked present. If a middle school student attends more than half their virtual class/classes, they will be marked as present.

Defining Absenteeism and Truancy within a Learner Validated Program

Entheos Academy will mark the absent student as excused if the parent calls to excuse the child's absence for non-participation, for such things as illness, a funeral, vacation.

Entheos Academy will mark the absent student not excused if no valid reason has been provided by the parent/guardian for the absence.

Absenteeism and truancy will be identified when a child has been absent for 5 days, without parent contact and a valid reason provided for non-participation/absence.

Parent Notification of Absence

- I. After five (5) unexcused absences, the director sends attendance email to parents.
- II. After seven (7) unexcused absences, attendance letter #1 is sent by certified mail and a mandatory attendance meeting is scheduled with the director, teacher, parent/guardian and student.
- III. 3. After ten (10) unexcused absences, attendance letter #2 is sent by certified mail requesting attendance mediation, a referral to the Division of Child and Family Services for Educational Neglect (for students under 14 years old), or a referral to truancy court (for students 14 and older).

¹ If a parent contacts the school to indicate the student has had difficulties accessing the virtual class or online work, but was still doing school work at home during the days under question, accommodations will be made regarding work completion, and at the discretion of the teacher/administration the student may still be marked present.

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Amending Student Membership Records

- I. If the student hasn't attended school or met the learner validated enrollment measures, including having no contact with the school for 10 days or more, Entheos Academy will remove the student from its membership roll.
- II. For proper membership accounting, the date of withdrawal will be the day after the last day of attendance as described with the learner validated enrollment measure above, or within 10 days after the last day of attendance on which it is officially known that the pupil has left school for one of the following reasons:
 - A. completion
 - B. Dismissal
 - C. Death
 - D. transfer or
 - E. administrative withdrawal
- III. The date does not necessarily have to be the day after the last day of attendance, but in no case may it be longer than 10 days after the last day of attendance at any time during the year except in case of:
 - A. sickness,
 - B. Hospitalization
 - C. home and hospital services being provided according to district policy ²
 - D. pending court investigation and action, and
 - E. prior-approved trip.
- IV. Entheos Academy Schools will withdraw students after 10 consecutive days of absence (considering the learner validated measures), unless they fit one or more exceptions listed above. A letter will be sent by the school notifying the parents of the withdrawal
Including:
 - A. Date of withdrawal
 - B. Meeting requirement of 10 days of consecutive absence
 - C. Contact to re-enroll student or inform of transfer

² Home and hospital comprises two hours of instruction per week, with at least one contact per week and documentation of that contact on record for the auditors.