Emereau Bladen

At Emereau, we illuminate to embark; we investigate to discover; we innovate to transform; we cultivate to sustain; we celebrate to thrive - realizing the potential within us - we graduate. $E=i^3c^2g!$

Illuminate Investigate Innovate Cultivate Celebrate Graduate

Emereau Bladen Charter School Attendance Policy

School Year: 2026–2027

Purpose

Regular attendance is essential for academic success. Emereau Bladen Charter School is committed to promoting consistent attendance and following North Carolina's Compulsory Attendance Law (§ 115C-378). This policy outlines procedures for attendance monitoring and communication with families.

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1. Compulsory Attendance

Students between the ages of 7 and 16 are required by law to attend school regularly. Emereau Bladen monitors attendance closely and collaborates with families to address barriers to attendance.

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2. Excused Absences

Absences will be excused for the following reasons with appropriate documentation:

- Personal illness or injury
- Medical or dental appointments
- Death in the immediate family
- Quarantine
- Court or administrative proceedings
- Religious observances

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- Approved educational opportunities (requires prior written approval)
- Deployment activity of a parent/legal guardian who is an active-duty military member

A written note from the parent/guardian must be provided within **seven (7) days** of the student's return to school. Notes after seven days will not be accepted, and the absence will remain unexcused.

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3. Unexcused Absences

An absence is unexcused if it does not meet the above criteria or if required documentation is not provided within the designated time.

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4. Tardiness and Early Dismissals

Students arriving late or leaving early without valid reason or documentation will be marked **tardy unexcused** . Excessive tardies may result in the same interventions as absences.

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5. Attendance Notification Process

In compliance with NCDPI guidelines and G.S. § 115C-378, the following actions will be taken:

3 Unexcused Absences:

- Parent/guardian will receive a **written notice** stating the number of unexcused absences and reminding them of the compulsory attendance law.
- School staff may make a phone call to discuss any concerns or support needs.

6 Unexcused Absences:

- A **second written notice** will be sent.
- Parent/guardian may be required to attend a **conference with the Emereau Attendance Team** to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan (AIP).
- School counselor and/or support staff will work with the family to identify barriers and resources.

10 Unexcused Absences:

- A **final written notice** will be issued informing the parent that the student is in violation of the compulsory attendance law. A required meeting with the Executive Director and the Social Worker will take place to discuss the attendance plan and next steps.
- Parent/guardian **will be** required to attend a conference with **Emereau Administration Team.**
- The school is legally obligated to **notify the Bladen County Truancy Officer** and may file a report with the **Department of Social Services (DSS)** and/or the **District Attorney** if the attendance issue persists.

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6. Make-Up Work

Students are responsible to make up missed work within a time frame equal to the number of days absent. (Example: 3 days absent, 3 days to make up the work) Students should arrange to obtain assignments from their teacher upon their return to school.

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7. Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or more of the school year for **any reason** (excused or unexcused). Chronic absenteeism will trigger interventions through the school's Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) team.

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8. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated to ensure compliance with all local and state laws.

Board Approved/Reviewed: _____

Signature: _____

Emereau Board of Directors Chair

Agent of Emereau

Signature: Billy G. Hancock

Title- Executive Director