

SIERRA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REVIEW BOARD MEETING
December 19, 2013, Sierra County Office of Education
109 Beckwith Road, Bldg 4, California
9:00 a.m.

Any individual who requires disability-related accommodations or modifications including auxiliary aids and services in order to participate in the Board meeting should contact the Superintendent or designee in writing.
Public inspection of agenda documents that are distributed to the Board less than 72 hours before the meeting, will be made available at Sierra County Office of Education, 109 Beckwith Rd., Room 3, Loyalton, CA 96118 and attached to the SARB online agenda at <http://www.sierracountyofficeofeducation.org> (Government Code 54957.5)

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the October 17, 2013, SARB meeting. (The November SARB Meeting was cancelled.)
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT
 1. Public Comment – This is an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the governing board on any item of interest that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the governing board whether or not it is listed on the agenda and/or to address the issues to be held in closed session. Five minutes may be allotted to each speaker and a maximum of twenty minutes to each subject matter. (Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54954.3)
- V. CHAIRMAN REPORT
 1. New Board Member Appointment – Parent Representative
 2. Correspondence from the Office of the Attorney General**
 3. Discussion on Breach of Directive process
- VI. BOARD REPORT
- VII. CLOSED SESSION

Open Session is now closed. The Student Attendance Review Board will now move into Closed Session to consider and/or take action upon student or attendance related matters.

Pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48912, the Board may hold closed sessions to consider an action against a pupil.

1. STUDENT HEARINGS 9:15 a.m.

- a. Student No. 10552
- b. Student No. 10046

2. BREACH OF DIRECTIVE

- a. Student # 10137
- b. Student # 154546
- c. Student # 144493

3. CASE REVIEW/PLANNING

- a. School
- b. Law Enforcement
- c. Human Services/Mental Health

VIII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

IX. REPORT OUT


1. Action Items

- X.** NEXT MEETING DATE will be January 16, 2014 or otherwise determined by the SARB due to the holiday break.

Suggested Agenda Items

- a. _____
- b. _____

XI. ADJOURN



Merrill M. Grant, Ed.D., Chairman



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

KAMALA D. HARRIS
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 14, 2013

Merrill Grant
Superintendent
Sierra County Office of Education
109 Beckwith Road
Loyalton, CA 96118

Dear Superintendent Grant:

Throughout my career as a prosecutor, I have always believed that to keep the public safe, we must be smart on crime. The empirical evidence overwhelmingly shows a direct tie between the nearly one million elementary school students who were truant last year and the health and safety of California. That is why when I consider smart ways to improve public safety, it is clear that we must end elementary school truancy and chronic absence.

For this reason, I commissioned a study to examine the scope, causes and effects of truancy and chronic absenteeism in California's K-6th grade classrooms. As you know, truancy is against the law, yet the problem is widespread and documented inconsistently across the state. The study also focused on what schools, school districts, counties, law enforcement, parents, educators, non-profits, public agencies and concerned community members can do to address these issues.

Attached, please find a copy of the result of this effort, "In School + On Track: Attorney General's 2013 Report on California's Elementary School Truancy & Absenteeism Crisis." The online version of the report – which includes videos and an interactive county heat map – can be found at <http://oag.ca.gov/truancy>.

As the report details, student absences are costing California school districts over one billion dollars annually in school funding (you can find the estimated losses to your county and others on pages 25-26). And the cost to California is even greater. Elementary school students who are truant or chronically absent are much more likely to eventually drop out of school and to become either a victim or perpetrator of crime. Both drive huge costs to all Californians – to the tune of nearly \$50 billion each year.

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That is why I am asking for your assistance and insight in combatting this problem. I hope that, together, we can build an ongoing collaboration to address the attendance crisis.

My office will issue this report annually, including updates on each county's elementary school truancy rate (last reported county truancy rates are on pages 5-6 of the report). I would greatly appreciate updates as to what your county is doing to address this crisis, as well as suggestions regarding best practices and solutions that the state, counties and school districts can implement to eradicate truancy in our elementary schools.

We will contact you in the weeks and months to come, as we continue this dialogue. In the interim, I encourage you to contact my office at (916) 324-5437 with any updates or suggestions on how we can reduce truancy and chronic absenteeism rates in California's elementary schools.

I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



KAMALA D. HARRIS

Enclosure