

REGULATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGH POINT REGIONAL

NO. R 5230

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Late Arrival and Early Dismissal

5230. LATE ARRIVAL AND EARLY DISMISSAL

A. Definitions

1. “Late arrival” means the arrival of a student after the beginning of the student’s school day for an excused purpose. A late arrival is not an instance of tardiness for the purpose of applying Regulation No. 5240.
2. “Early dismissal” means the release of a student from school prior to the end of the student’s school day for an excused purpose; "early dismissal" includes the release of a student for a period of time that occurs during the student’s school day. An early dismissal is not an absence for the purpose of applying Regulation No. 5200.
3. “Dismissal from class” means a student’s brief absence from his/her assigned class for a reason that has been approved in advance. A "dismissal from class" is not a class "cut" for the purpose of applying Regulation No. 5200.

B. Acceptable Excuses

The following circumstances justify a student’s late arrival. The list is not meant to be exhaustive, and the parent should use his/her best judgment in determining whether or not there is good cause for the student’s late arrival.

1. The student’s disability from illness or injury, including any necessary emergency visits to a physician or dentist;
2. A bona fide family emergency;
3. The observance of a religious holiday;
4. Religious instruction;

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5. Family emergency;
6. Medical or dental appointment that cannot be scheduled at a time other than during the school day;
7. Motor vehicle driver's examination that cannot be scheduled at a time other than during the school day;
8. The student's required attendance in court;
9. Private lessons in music, art, or dance or private practice sessions in preparation for competitive events, such as in figure skating or gymnastics; and
10. An interview with a prospective employer or with an admissions officer of an institution of higher education.

C. Late Arrival

1. A student's late arrival in school should be approved by the Principal or designee in advance.
2. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or adult student shall submit a written request for approval of a late arrival to the Main Office. The request must include the reason for the student's late arrival and a statement of why it is necessary to delay the student's arrival at school.
3. A student who arrives late at school shall report to the Main Office and pick up a late arrival permission slip, signed by the Main Office staff. The permission slip will include the date and the time of the student's arrival. The student will proceed to his/her assigned class and present the permission slip to the teaching staff member in charge, who will verify the date and time.

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D. Early Dismissal Generally

1. A student's early dismissal must be approved by the Principal or designee in advance. Except for emergencies, an early dismissal that is not approved in advance will be considered to be an absence.
2. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or adult student shall submit a written request for approval of an early dismissal to the Main Office. The request must include the reason for the student's early dismissal and a statement of why it is necessary to excuse the student before the end of the student's school day.
3. A student must obtain an approved early dismissal permission slip from the Main Office and present the slip to the teaching staff member in charge of the class or activity from which the student is to be dismissed. The permission slip will include the date and time of approved dismissal. The teaching staff member in charge must verify the date and time.

E. Early Dismissal for Illness or Injury

1. A student who suffers a significant illness or injury during the course of the school day will be treated in accordance with Policy and Regulation No. 8441.
2. No student under the age of eighteen (18) shall be released from school before the end of the school day except in the presence of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or an agent of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

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F. Early Dismissal for Family Emergency

1. A student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), or caretaker may request the student's early release for a bona fide family emergency. Early dismissal for family emergency must be approved by the Principal or designee.
2. A student will be released to a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who reports to the school office and explains satisfactorily to the Principal that good and sufficient reason justifies the student's release from school before the end of the student's school day.
3. A student will be released to an agent of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) provided the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), or a caretaker personally known to the Principal has requested the student's release by:
 - a. Written request signed by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), or caretaker and verified by telephone call to the signer, or
 - b. A telephone call that is verified by a return telephone call to the student's residence or, if the call does not originate in the student's home, by interrogation of the caller to test his/her knowledge of specific facts about the student.
4. The Principal shall verify the identity of the agent to whom the student is released by examination of documents or by verification of characteristics supplied by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), or caretaker.
5. If the Principal believes that a genuine emergency may exist but cannot verify the identity of the person who requests release of the student, the Principal shall arrange for the student's transportation by a school staff member directly to the custody of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), or designated agent of the parent or legal guardian.

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6. The Principal shall maintain a record of each student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s). The record shall include any legally sufficient notice given the Principal by a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in sole custody that the noncustodial parent's access to the student has been limited. In the absence of such notice, the Principal shall presume that the student may be released into the care of either parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

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