

5240 TARDINESS

The Board of Education believes that promptness is an important element of school attendance. Students who are late to school or to class miss essential portions of the instructional program and create disruptions in the academic process for themselves and other students.

Tardiness to school or class that is caused by a student's illness, an emergency in the student's family, the observance of a religious holiday, a death in the student's family, or by the student's compliance with a request or directive of an administrator will be considered justified and is excused. All other incidents of tardiness will be considered unexcused.

The South Orange Maplewood School District is committed to supporting the whole child and understands that many times attendance challenges are outside of the child's control and therefore we strongly encourage (and expect) parental engagement to support attendance improvement. Continued tardiness on the part of any student will be viewed as a very serious matter. Promptness is extremely important. Students are required to be in their places, ready for work, at the bell. Infractions of this policy will be cause for corrective or disciplinary action. Tardy students are required to present a note from their parent(s) or legal guardian, whether tardiness is excusable or not.

A student who develops a pattern of tardiness, excused or unexcused, will be offered counseling with an appropriate staff member to determine the cause of the tardiness. For additional information on details of the District's attendance support/improvement process, parents should engage with their school leaders. Additional information is available in our parental handbooks and District regulations.

N.J.S.A.18A:36-14; 18A:36-15; 18A:36-25 et seq.
~~N.J.A.C. 6:20-1.3~~

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POLICY

SOUTH ORANGE MAPLEWOOD
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Students
5240/Page 2 of 2
TARDINESS

