



Sumner County Board of Education

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We've had questions regarding our district attendance policies in light of Covid-19. We want to assure everyone that we're reviewing our policies to make sure that we support healthy decisions based on each family's situation.

Board policy allows for five excused absences each semester using parent notes. If it is necessary for your child to miss school due to sickness or they have been exposed to Covid-19 and you've chosen to self-quarantine, please communicate with your school. We have every intention to work with parents regarding our student's school attendance during this unprecedented regional health concern.

Currently, exam exemptions at the majority of our high schools are connected to attendance. We have responded proactively for the spring semester of 2020 regarding final exams. We will not administer final exams in high school this year. State End of Course (EOC) tests and AP examinations will still be given according to the testing schedule currently required by the state.

We continue to monitor this rapidly changing situation closely with information provided by the National Institute of Health, the Center for Disease Control, the Tennessee Department of Health, and the Tennessee Department of Education. We will provide you with ongoing updates based on their recommendations.

We encourage everyone to use basic illness prevention:

- **Stay home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.** Germs spread this way.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes.** Use a tissue to cover coughs and sneezes, then dispose of the tissue. When a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- **Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects.** Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home and work, especially when someone is ill.
- **Wash hands for 20 seconds.** Washing hands often with soap, under clean running water, can help prevent the spread of germs.

Should you have additional questions or need more information we encourage you to visit the Tennessee Department of Health's site (<https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html>) or the Centers for Disease Control site (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>).

The Department of Health has also launched a Tennessee Coronavirus Public Information Line in partnership with the Tennessee Poison Control Center. The hotline number is 877-857-2945 and will be available from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. CST.

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