



New Jersey Department of Education



New Jersey State Board of Education Meeting

N.J.A.C. 6A:32, School District Operations

Division of Field Support and Services

December 4, 2024





N.J.A.C. 6A:32, School District Operations Purpose and Background




N.J.A.C. 6A:32-1, Scope and Purpose

- ☐ The rules in this chapter are intended to provide assistance to district boards of education and school district administrators regarding the daily operation of schools and school districts.

Background

- ☐ P.L. 2023, c.274 was enacted January 16, 2024.
- ☐ N.J.S.A. 18A:36-33.1 establishes a definition for a civic event.
- ☐ N.J.S.A. 18A:36-33.2 allows a public-school student in grades six through 12 to have one State-excused absence each school year for the purpose of attending a civic event.
- ☐ The Department proposes to amend N.J.A.C. 6A:32-2.1, Definitions, and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.4 to align the chapter with P.L. 2023, c. 274.





N.J.A.C. 6A:32-2.1, Definitions



This section provides definitions for terms used throughout N.J.A.C. 6A:32.

The Department proposes the term “civic event” to mirror the definition at N.J.S.A. 18A:36-33.1.

...

“Civic event” means an event sponsored by a government entity, a community-based organization, or a nonprofit organization that incorporates elements of service learning whereby students learn and develop through organized service. A civic event shall address an issue of public concern such as community health and safety or environmental, economic, or community well-being.

...





N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.4, Student attendance



This section defines student attendance for recording purposes in the school register. This section also sets forth the types of State-excused absences that are established by State statutes: religious observances, participation in observance of Veterans Day, and participation in district board of election membership activities.

The Department proposes new N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.4(e)7 to include participation in a civic event, up to one day per year for students in grades six through 12, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-33.2, in the list of State-excused absences. The proposed amendment will permit a State-excused absence once per year for students in grades six through 12 who attend a civic event. As in the past, district boards of education can establish student attendance policies that allow for locally defined excused absences that extend beyond N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.4(e) for the purposes of expectations and consequences regarding truancy, student conduct, promotion, retention, and the award of course credit.

6A:32-8.4(e)

State-excused absences shall be as follows:

...

- 7. Participation in a civic event, up to one day per year for students in grades six through 12, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-33.1 and 33.2.**



Thank You!



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