

Educational Enhancement Opportunity

Ballard County Board Policy (educational enhancement):

To apply, a written request must be received from and submitted to the school office in which the student attends. The request must be completed ten (10) days prior to the absence in order to be reviewed. Students shall be granted an excused absence for up to ten (10) school days to pursue an educational enhancement opportunity determined by the Attendance Committee to be of significant educational value. This opportunity may include, but not be limited to, participation in an educational foreign exchange program or an intensive instructional, experiential, or performance program in one (1) of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language, and the arts.

Unless the Attendance Committee determines that extenuating circumstances exist, requests for date(s) falling within State or District testing periods shall not be granted.

The Attendance Committee's determination may be appealed to the Superintendent/designee whose decision may then be appealed to the Board under its grievance policy and procedures.

Students receiving an excused absence under this section shall have the opportunity to make up school work missed and shall not have their class grades adversely affected for lack of class attendance or class participation due to the excused absence.

Ballard County Schools Code of Conduct (educational enhancement):

Educational Enhancement Opportunity - In order for such a request to be approved, the experience must have significant educational value and be composed of an intensive program related to the core curriculum. Parents must contact or come in to speak with the Director of Pupil Personnel or building Principal for complete details. An Educational Enhancement Opportunity **form must be requested from, completed, and presented to the DPP or building Principal 10 days prior to the requested date of absence**. All agreed-upon requirements must be met within a week of the student's return. This type of absence cannot occur during the school's state or district-wide assessments, unless there are extenuating circumstances that are approved by the Director of Pupil Personnel or the building Principal.

Procedure:

- At least 10 days prior to the requested date of absence, fill out the Educational Enhancement paperwork entirely and return to the building principal.
- The principal will let parents know approval/non-approval in a timely manner.
- If approved, the student will be responsible for making up all school work during the dates of absence.
- If approved, the student will submit an essay about the educational enhancement trip, clearly describing the opportunity and how it relates to one of the following academic areas: English, science, math, social studies, foreign language, or the arts. This essay must be given to the principal of the building within one week of return. If the essay is not handed to the principal in that time, the days of absence will be counted as parent notes. If all parent notes have been previously used, the days of absence will be counted as unexcused.

Please initial beside the following statements:

_____ I have read the Ballard County Board Policy concerning educational enhancement opportunities.

_____ I have read the Ballard County Schools' Code of Conduct concerning educational enhancement opportunities.

_____ I have read, and will comply with, the procedures in order to obtain a successful educational enhancement opportunity.

Ballard County Schools

Educational Enhancement Opportunity Request Form

To request an absence to attend or participate in an educational activity, please complete and return this form to the building principal or Director of Pupil Personnel at least 10 days prior to the absence. Such an absence as requested by this signed application and approved by the Attendance Committee (principal, Director of Pupil Personnel), will be considered an excused absence. The proposed activity must have significant educational value and be composed of an intensive program related to the core curriculum: English, science, math, social studies, foreign language, or the arts. The Attendance Committee will use its good judgment to determine if the activity meets guidelines. A student may be approved for up to 10 days of absence per year for this purpose. Students who are granted an absence under this law will be allowed to make up all school work. The student's grades cannot be affected by lack of attendance or participation in classes for approved days. **Educational Enhancement Opportunities cannot occur during the school's KSA testing or district-wide assessments, unless there are extenuating circumstances that are approved by the principal.** Decisions may be appealed to the superintendent/designee and then to the Board of Education.

Student full legal name: _____ Date of application: _____

Name of school: _____ Homeroom teacher: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Phone/cell: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Number of excused absences to date: _____ Number of unexcused absences to date: _____

Requested dates of absences: _____

Description of educational activity (for each date of absence requested):

Signature of parent/guardian, date

Approved by school administrator, date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date received by
office/principal: _____