

**Franklin Public Schools
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038**

Action Required

Subject: FHS Senior Study Hall Pilot

Date: March 13, 2018

Dept: School Committee

Reason: Required Vote

Enclosure: yes

Recommendation:

I recommend temporary suspension of policy JH – Student Absences for the purpose of piloting late arrival/early release for FHS Seniors during quarter 4 as discussed.

Action Requested of the School Committee:

Majority vote of the School Committee is required.

<u>Vote Tabulator</u>	
A. Bergen: Y / N	D. Schultz: Y / N
C. Douglas: Y / N	MJ Scofield: Y / N
D. Feeley: Y / N	G. Zub: Y / N
M. Linden: Y / N	Action: _____

MEMO

To: Sara Ahern, Superintendent of Schools
From: Paul Peri, Principal Franklin High School
Date: 3.6.18
Re: Senior Perks-Late Arrival, Early Release



Franklin High School is seeking a temporary suspension to policy JH (punctual attendance at school) as it is looking to pilot a change of schedule for members of the Senior Class in good academic and behavioral standing. This change of schedule would entail allowing those students in Grade 12 the opportunity to arrive just prior to the second period (8:40) if they have a Direct Study first period, or leaving just after fourth period, (1:00) if they have a Direct Study last period. Due to the rotation nature of our schedule, this would only impact an individual student two out of every seven school days.

As these Seniors approach the end of their time with Franklin Public Schools, and as they enter a time when they are put in positions of increased independence, FHS looks to provide those students with an opportunity to demonstrate their responsibility and independence.

In addition to granting these young men and women the chance to begin transitioning to the next chapter of their lives, this also has the potential to benefit other members of the FHS community. This will help to decrease the traffic and congestion in the student parking lots during both arrival and dismissal. Additionally, it will serve as another motivator to keep our students focused and engaged up through the end of the school year.

Students will coordinate closely with their assistant principals to ensure they remain eligible for this senior perk as well as to coordinate sign in and sign out procedures with their house offices.

We look forward to working with our senior class as they finish their time with Franklin Public Schools.

Franklin School Committee

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Student Absences and Excuses

File: JH

STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Regular and punctual school attendance is essential for success in school. The Committee does recognize that parent/guardians of children attending our schools have special rights as well as responsibilities, one of which is to ensure that their children attend school regularly, in accordance with state law.

Therefore, students may be excused temporarily from school attendance for the following reasons:

1. Illness or quarantine.
2. Bereavement or serious illness in family.
3. Weather so inclement as to endanger the health of the child.
4. For observance of major religious holidays.
5. Those excused, documented absences as found in Franklin Public School Handbooks.

A child may also be excused for other exceptional reasons with approval of the school administrator.

Accordingly, parent/guardians will provide an explanation for the absence or tardiness of a child. This will be required in advance for types of absences where advance notice is possible.

In instances of chronic irregular, or unlawful absence, the school administration may request a physician's statement certifying such absences to be justifiable and/or may refer the parent to the court system or other state agencies for appropriate action.

The school district does not support student absences for family or personal vacations. The school will not be responsible for providing study material, nor will the staff be responsible for make-up or after-school study sessions.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 76: 1; 76:16; 76:20

REF.: Franklin Public School Handbooks

Reviewed; revised: 11/21/2013
Reviewed, no revisions 8/18/26