

What can I do to support my child's success in school?

The very best way to help your child succeed in school is to stay closely involved with your child's school and progress.

- Speak with your child regularly about school and their experience
- Attend district and school sponsored events such as back-to-school night and open house.
- Contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about schoolwork or your child's progress.
- Monitor your child's attendance online through the Infinite Campus attendance system portal.

Stay connected!

For assistance related to SARB, please contact:

Lissette Moore-Guerra
Student Services Coordinator
Telephone: (650) 329-3722
lmoore-guerra@pausd.org

Where can I get help?

For a comprehensive list of services:

<http://pausd.org/parents/services>

211 Santa Clara County
Referrals for housing/food/etc.
Dial "211" / www.211scc.org

Parenting Classes
Parent Project Class-Palo Alto
(650) 329-2274/(650) 329-2174

Substance Abuse
SCC Youth System of Care
Dept of Alcohol/Drug Services
(408) 272-6518

Adolescent Counseling and Substance Abuse Services
(650) 424-0852 x 104
www.acs-teens.org

Mental Health
HEARD Alliance www.heardalliance.org

Bill Wilson Center
Mental health/shelter/housing
(408) 243-0222 www.billwilsoncenter.org

LGBTQQ - Outlet
www.projectoutlet.org
(650) 965-2020 x122



Palo Alto
Unified School District

25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306
www.pausd.org 650-329-3700

School Attendance Review Board (SARB)

We support all PAUSD students as they prepare themselves to thrive as global citizens in a rapidly changing world. We develop our students' knowledge, critical thinking, and problem solving skills, and nurture their curiosity, creativity, and resilience, empowering every child to reach their full intellectual, social and creative potential.

WHAT IS SARB?

The School Attendance Review Board (SARB) was established by the California Legislature in 1975 for the purposes of:

- Enforcing compulsory attendance laws and developing coordinated services between school, community and home to address attendance and behavior
- Maximizing all available resources and services
- Diverting students with school-related problems from the juvenile justice system

WHAT IS THE SARB PROCESS?

The SARB process starts with identification of attendance problems followed by classroom and school site interventions such as phone calls, conferences, truancy notifications, Student Success Team (SST), Saturday School and attendance contracts. Students may be referred to SARB when interventions at the school site level have been exhausted. If SARB is unable to resolve the attendance or behavior problem utilizing educational and community resources, the SARB may refer the case to the Santa Clara County District Attorney for mediation and possible court filing.

SARB Team Members

The SARB team includes Student and Parent (s) / Guardian(s), District Nurse, Student Resource Officer, School Site Staff, School Counselors, School Psychologist, Secondary Options Administrator, District Administrators, District Social Worker and other professionals.

THE GOALS OF SARB

The goals of the SARB include: to keep students in school, to keep students engaged in learning, and to increase high school graduation rates.

HOW DOES SARB WORK?

The SARB convenes a meeting with the students and the students' parent(s) / guardian(s). The SARB team members work with families to understand the underlying issues keeping the students from attending classes and to develop recommendations to remedy the situation. SARB agreements could involve seeing a therapist in the community, a physician or other human services agency. The parent(s) may be asked to attend classes or other types of supports.

Compulsory Education School Attendance Laws

- California state education laws require that every person between six and eighteen years of age attend school (EC48200).
- Students are expected to attend school regularly and on time.
- Parents and guardians are required to send their children to school.
- Any student who has three unexcused absences or three tardies of more than 30 minutes or any combination of both is considered truant (EC 48262).

LAWS RELATED TO ATTENDANCE:

- **Education Code, Section 48200.** Students, between the ages of 6 and 18, are required to attend school full-time, unless otherwise exempt.
- **Education Code, Section 48260.** Definition of a truant.
- **Education Code, Section 48262.** Definition of a habitual truant.
- **Education Code, Section 48263.** Habitually truant and habitually insubordinate students may be referred to SARB.
- **Education Code, Section 48263.5.** SARB referral to truancy mediation program.
- **Education Code, Section 48263.6** Definition of a chronic truant.
- **Education Code, Section 48273.** SARB composition and reporting.
- **Education Code, Section 48292.** Failure to attend school as required may result in the filing of a complaint against the parents with the District Attorney's Office.
- **Education Code, Section 48293.** Penalties against parents for non-compliance with SARB directives. (infraction)
- **Penal Code 270.1.** Misdemeanor penalty for parent of student considered to be a chronic truant.
- **Penal Code 272.** Misdemeanor penalty for parent for contributing to the delinquency of a minor.
- **Vehicle Code 13202.7.** The court may revoke or delay the issuance of a driver's license to a student between the ages of 13 and 18 for one year if he/she is a habitual truant.

Potential Consequences

*Determined by District Attorney's Office

- A monetary fine for parents and mandated parenting classes*
- Fines for student
- Revocation of student's work permit
- One year suspension or delay of student's CA drivers license
- Possible criminal charges of (Penal Code 272) Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor or (Penal Code 270.1) Chronically Truant Child (grades K-8)*