

## **PENN VALLEY UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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### Absence Notifications 2018/19 School Year Notice to Parents/Guardians Regarding California State Law Requirements

California State Law requires notifications to parents with regard to absences as outlined in the attached letter to Districts dated May 1, 2013 from the Office of the Attorney General. In an effort to notify parents as required by law in a timely manner, we reassigned the truancy notification process to the District Office in August 2013.

The District will be following the law and parents/guardian can expect to receive letters if their student reaches the unexcused levels as noted in the attached law.

Enclosed is such a letter for your student. Please note - we are finding that many unexcused absence are noted as such because contact was not made with the school office to clear the absences, and the absence then must roll to unexcused. Parents are expected to contact the school when their child is absent for any reason on the day of the absence. These processes are explained in the school handbooks or first day folders. Parents inform us of the reason for the absence and the student is marked either “excused” or “unexcused” according to law. When a parent does not respond to school requests, the absence remains in the attendance system as “unexcused.” Please note: The State sets dates throughout the school year as deadlines for which school districts must report attendance to them. Absence codes reported that fall within that reporting period cannot be changed after the report deadline date set by the State.

Also, please note that a courtesy notice will be sent when any student reaches what the law deems as “chronic absentee”, which means a student absent on 10 percent or more of the days at that point in the school year. Unlike, truancy, this measure includes all absences – including excused absences – and assumes all excessive absences impede learning.

Regular attendance is paramount to a student’s success in school. Please help us make sure that your student is in the classroom, ready to learn!

If you have any questions regarding your student’s letter, please feel free to contact our Support Services Secretary in the District Office at 432-7311 ext. 7.