



# *Cape Breton-Victoria* *Regional School Board*

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

Please be advised that the provincial government has introduced a new Student Attendance and Engagement policy which will come into effect on October 1, 2017, and will replace any existing board or school policy. This policy was created after months of consultation with the *Council to Improve Classroom Conditions*. This council is composed of teachers, a parent and a student representative. Please review the following documents which you will find on our board website [www.cbv.ns.ca](http://www.cbv.ns.ca) or at [www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy](http://www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy)

- *Student Attendance and Engagement Policy*
- *Frequently Asked Questions*
- *Fact Sheet*
- *Operational Guide*

The new Student Attendance and Engagement policy is being introduced to address issues our schools have been experiencing with low attendance. More than 25% of students miss more than 16 days a year, and research shows that poor attendance is linked to poor student performance. We all want our students to experience success in school, and good attendance is key to their success.

This new policy will be reviewed at the end of the 2017-18 school year. You can provide feedback at any time of the year by emailing [attendance@novascotia.ca](mailto:attendance@novascotia.ca). As the policy is implemented, you will receive more information from your school. Improving attendance is a team effort, and we look forward to working with students, families and community partners on attendance and engagement.

Yours truly,

Beth MacIsaac  
Superintendent

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