

## EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITY REQUEST

Spencer County Public Schools believe that attendance is a critical component of a student's educational success. However, we do realize that there are experiences outside of the normal school day that can positively impact the growth of a child. Therefore, we will support educational enhancement opportunities when the following criteria is met:

- The request form is to be completed in its entirety and be submitted to student's school at least ten (10) days prior to the anticipated event.
- The anticipated event does not exceed ten (10) school days.
- The proposed event has educational value is related to one of the core curriculum subjects.
- The anticipated event does not fall within state or district testing periods.
- The student does not have three (3) or more unexcused absences (including tardies).
- The student must be passing all classes.
- A grade level appropriate report summarizing the educational value of the experience must be completed and submitted to the school with five (5) school days of returning from the event.
- When completing the form you must describe the educational value and activities that the student will experience during this event. Simply writing "going on vacation to Florida" would not be considered an approvable request.

Over the past several years Spencer County School District has maintained a high level of academic success and having high expectations for students is definitely a contributing factor. Therefore, we believe this criteria is justified when allowing students to miss school for an educational enhancement opportunity.

### Educational Enhancement Opportunity Request Form

**To request an absence to participate in an educational enhancement activity, please complete this application and return it to your school's principal at least five (5) days prior to the anticipated event. The following standards shall apply to all requests:**

1. The proposed activity must have significant education value.
2. The proposed activity must be directly related to one (1) of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language, and/or the arts.
3. The proposed activity is:
  - An intensive program related to the core curriculum;
  - An educational foreign exchange program
  - Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Approval may be given for up to ten (10) school days.
5. Unless the Principal determines that extenuating circumstances exist, requests for date(s) falling within State or District testing periods shall not be granted; and
6. The Principal will determine if the activity is of significant educational value.

If the request is approved, the student will not be counted absent and will be able to make up work. The student's grade(s) shall not be affected adversely for lack of class attendance or class participation.

Decisions may be appealed to the Superintendent and then to the Board of Education under the District's Grievance policy.

Student Full Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Excused Absences To Date \_\_\_\_\_ Unexcused Absences To Date \_\_\_\_\_ Total Absences to Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Intended Absence(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain the nature of the event the student will be attending and how the activity meets the criteria of (1) having an educational purpose, (2) having "significant educational value," and (3) how the activity is directly related to one of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language or the arts. Please attach a schedule of activities/events to be attended. (Use additional paper, if needed, and attach to this completed form.)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Educational Enhancement Opportunity Request Form**

**FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY – TO BE COMPLETED BY PRINCIPAL/DESIGNEE**

This request must meet all three criteria to be eligible for an educational opportunity absence:

1. This request is for an absence that will have “significant educational value” and be “intensive” in nature. Yes  No
2. The activity is tied to one of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language or the arts. Yes  No

As Principal, I recommend  I do not recommend  that this educational opportunity absence be granted.

Principal’s Rationale:

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Signature of Principal

Date

Review/Revised:9/13/2004