

## Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools

### EXCUSED ABSENCE POLICIES

The City public schools and the Buncombe County public schools have slightly different policies on excused absences. The policies also differ between elementary, middle and high schools. **Students are responsible for reading their handbook to learn the full policy for excused absences in their school. Students are also responsible for giving teachers notice that they will miss school for a religious observance.**

**Asheville High School policy on excused absences** includes absence for religious observance in the nine excused absences per semester. However, students may request a waiver from the principal for religious observance days, if later in the semester they find themselves in a situation to exceed the maximum nine days. Please note: Final exam exemption for perfect attendance has been abolished. The only exception: seniors with an A average in the course, unless it is an EOC, VOCAT, or AP course.

**Buncombe County High Schools policy on excused absences** also includes absence for religious observance within the maximum number of excused absences per semester. In the 90-day semester, a student must attend 85 days to receive credit for the course. Principals have the discretion to offer Saturday make-up classes. Students should learn their teachers' policies on absence for religious observance with regard to no-final-exam privileges for perfect attendance.

**Please review the Jewish Calendar information sheet given to Principals and Teachers.** In cases where a student's religious observance affects attendance or completion of homework beyond the explanation offered on the Jewish Calendar information sheet, the student/parent should consult with the principal for additional consideration.