

Alachua County SARB School Attendance Review Board

Hello, Parent/ Guardian of _____,

You are here today to participate in the SARB (School Attendance Review Board). This committee of school and community persons is concerned about school attendance, wanting to see immediate and drastic improvement in your student. **The goal of the SARB is to offer support, resources and recommendations so that your student attends school each day that it is in session.**

It is important that you know the following information:

- Florida Statutes state that school attendance is required for youth between the ages of 6 and 16.
- Students with 15 or more unexcused absences within a 90-day period are considered a **habitual truant**.
- You are here today because your student has an excessive number of absences, (_____) and all other attempts for improvement have not resulted in a change for the better.

You and your student will meet with the committee as close to your scheduled time as possible and the following process will take place:

- The members of the SARB will be introduced to you and we ask you to introduce yourselves.
- You will be provided a printout of the school attendance sheet for your student. This indicates the dates your student is identified with an unexcused absence.
- We will ask you as the parent or guardian, to explain to the SARB members reasons your student has the excessive unexcused absences.
- Depending on the individual student, we may ask them to give an explanation also.
- The SARB panel will make recommendations for your family.
- Before leaving the building you will receive a copy of the SARB recommendation(s).

The following items are some recommendations that may result from the SARB:

- Attend school each and every day beginning today after leaving the SARB, and/or
- **Truancy Petition** being filed against a student and parent, and/or
- **Misdemeanor charge** of “Contributing to the delinquency of a Minor” against the parent/ guardian, and/or
- A residential stay at Interface Youth Program/ CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services, and/or
- Non-residential counseling.

What happens after the SARB?

- The student’s home school will also receive a copy of the recommendation.
- The student’s attendance will be closely monitored.
- The SARB will receive a 30 day follow up “update” on the attendance of your student.
- *Continued Failure to attend school **WILL** result in a recommendation to have a Truancy petition and/or Misdemeanor charge filed.*

Signature: _____ Date: _____