



Public Schools Branch Policy – Leave to Accompany Students to Sanctioned Events not Sponsored by the Department of Education

DM Approval:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. D.", written over a horizontal line.

Date: January 1, 2017

The Department of Education recognizes the need for the development of students' basic skills, including their physical development and personal health and fitness. At the same time, the department recognizes the fundamental importance of respecting the operational requirements of the schools, especially teacher/student class contact time.

For the purposes of this policy, a 'sanctioned event' means a conference, sporting event, cultural event, or community activity that is not part of the employee's normal teaching duties and is not specifically covered by the YTA collective agreement. The event must be sanctioned by the appropriate Yukon governing body and must be one at which the employee is accompanying students enrolled in Yukon schools.

The following guidelines will be applied to any request for leave to accompany students to a sanctioned event that is not sponsored by the employee's school or by the Department of Education.

1. Bargaining unit employees may apply for leave to accompany students to a sanctioned event, for approval by the principal (or the superintendent, if the principal is applying for the leave).
2. An employee may be approved for this leave only once per school year.
3. An employee will be considered for this type of leave only if they are accredited representatives or officials of Yukon teams or organizations and:
 - a. are accompanying Yukon students who are participating in the sanctioned event; or
 - b. if the employee's attendance at the sanctioned event will educationally benefit the school or the Yukon education system.
4. The students the employee is accompanying to the sanctioned event can be from the employee's school or another Yukon school.
5. This type of leave will not be considered for employees who are accompanying students to a sanctioned event as a parent or chaperone.
6. Principals (or the superintendent, when a principal is requesting leave) will consider all of the following when an application for this type of leave is received:
 - a. whether school operational requirements can be met in the employee's absence;

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- b. whether students for whom the employee is normally responsible will be detrimentally affected in their education by the employee's absence;
- c. the following information, which must be provided by the employee:
 - i. a letter of request/approval from the Yukon governing body and/or other relevant documentation relating to the sanctioned event;
 - ii. a summary of the educational relevance and benefit of the students' and the employee's attendance at the sanctioned event; and
 - iii. the names and number of students attending the sanctioned event as well as their grade, school and relationship to the employee.

For greater certainty, this type of leave is not intended to apply to inter-school athletic activities as referred to under the Inter-School Athletics Policy.

HISTORY

Policy 6025 'Teacher Leave Not Specified In The YTA Collective Agreement', effective December 18, 1986; replaced by Public Schools Branch Policy – 'Leave to Accompany Students to Sanctioned Events not Sponsored by the Department of Education', effective January 1, 2017.