

Thomaston Center School Attendance Policy during Hybrid/Distance Learning

Recently, the CT State Department of Education offered guidance on attendance policies. While we will continue to ask the students to log in for attendance, this is no longer considered an adequate measure for attendance.

Therefore,

- Attendance will be gathered as typical if a child is present at school during their in-person learning days. If they are present, they will be marked as such. If they are absent, please contact the school to notify us of the absence.
- For remote learners, whether they are full time distance learners or remote learners for that day, attendance will be determined by guidelines recently implemented by CSDE.
- For detailed information, please see the explanation below.
- In short, a student will be considered present on a remote learning day if they are “present” a minimum of 50 % of time on that day

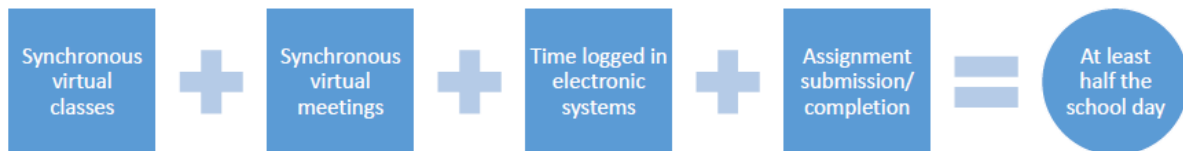
Tracking Daily Attendance on Remote Days in 2020-21



State Board of Education Policy (2008):

“A student is considered to be ‘in attendance’ if present at his/her assigned school, or an activity sponsored by the school (e.g., field trip), for at least half of the regular school day.”

A remote student can be considered as being ‘in attendance’ on a particular day if the total time spent on one or more of the following activities equals at least half the school day.



Synchronous virtual classes are live classes that are streamed real time to students using a videoconferencing platform like Google Meets, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, etc.

Synchronous virtual meetings may be with a teacher, counselor, social worker, paraprofessional, etc. using a videoconferencing platform or via telephone. They may be homeroom opportunities, daily routine check-ins, or other synchronous conversations.

Time logged in electronic systems can be used to identify *any time over and above the synchronous virtual classes and meetings* that the student may have participated in during the school day.

Assignment submission/completion time can be determined by the teacher by starting with an estimate of time it will take for a typical student to submit/complete that assignment, and using that estimate to gauge the attendance time for the day that should be allotted to each student.

Notes:

- If a student is absent on a given day (either in-person or remote), they cannot make up for that absence on another day.
- Districts should track membership and attendance *separately* for a student’s in-person vs remote days.