

Holyoke Public Schools – 57 Suffolk Street – Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040
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David L. Dupont, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

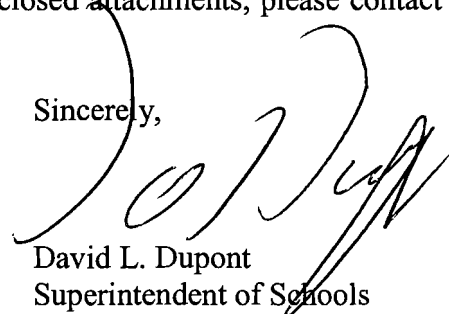
At their meeting of Monday, November 7, 2005, the Holyoke School Committee voted to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for a mandatory Saturday School for certain students in the Holyoke Public Schools. I am writing to you to make you fully aware of the new policy requirements. The primary reason for this change is the inability of certain schools in this City to maintain the required attendance under federal and state laws which call for every student to attend school at least ninety-two percent (92%) of the time. Failure of a student to attend can and has cost schools to be labeled underperforming even when students are able to pass required state exams.

It is my sincere hope that, with your help and assistance, your child can maintain good attendance. If it becomes necessary for your child to make up school time, you will be notified by your child's school as to what Saturday(s) he/she will be required to attend. It will be your family's responsibility to bring the student to school and to pick him/her up at the appropriate time.

Under the new policy, no student will be allowed to graduate or be promoted to the next grade level without making up missed school days and the required Saturday School attendance.

If you have any questions regarding this new policy and the enclosed attachments, please contact your child's school at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



David L. Dupont
Superintendent of Schools

attachments: Attendance Policy
Saturday School Information