



# EASTERN SHORES

## SCHOOL BOARD

**Administrative Bulletin**

**ES-162**

### **ABSENTEEISM**

The following is a brief interpretation of Section 38.1(b) of the Youth Protection Act. It is to be noted that the school has the responsibility for ensuring pupil attendance and is also responsible for referring cases of prolonged absenteeism that are without just cause.

Section 38.1(b) refers to a child who "is of school age and does not attend school or is frequently absent without reason".

School Age is defined in Section 14 of the Education Act: "every child ... shall attend school from the first day of the school calendar in the school year following that in which he attains six years of age until the last day of the school calendar in the school year in which he attains sixteen years of age ...".

The following are the criteria to be used by the schools under the jurisdiction of The Eastern Shores School Board for the purpose of referral to the Director of Youth Protection:

- The pupil's complete absence for a period over ten consecutive days
- The pupil' cumulative absence for a period of ten days within a single month
- The repeated occurrence of prolonged absence from school - three consecutive days or more, within any school phase (term)
- The pupil's cumulative absence for a period equivalent to 20% of class time in any one school phase

The reason or reasons given to justify the pupil's absence from school may be judged inadequate or justifiable upon examination as the case may be presented. The procedures outlined by the Ministry of Education of Quebec must be adhered to however, in order that our grants are not affected.