

1 1003.26 Enforcement of school attendance.--The
2 Legislature finds that poor academic performance is associated
3 with nonattendance and that schools must take an active role
4 in enforcing attendance as a means of improving the
5 performance of many students. It is the policy of the state
6 that each district school superintendent be responsible for
7 enforcing school attendance of all students subject to the
8 compulsory school age in the school district. The
9 responsibility includes recommending to the district school
10 board policies and procedures to ensure that schools respond
11 in a timely manner to every unexcused absence, or absence for
12 which the reason is unknown, of students enrolled in the
13 schools. District school board policies must require each
14 parent of a student to justify each absence of the student,
15 and that justification will be evaluated based on adopted
16 district school board policies that define excused and
17 unexcused absences. The policies must provide that schools
18 track excused and unexcused absences and contact the home in
19 the case of an unexcused absence from school, or an absence
20 from school for which the reason is unknown, to prevent the
21 development of patterns of nonattendance. The Legislature
22 finds that early intervention in school attendance matters is
23 the most effective way of producing good attendance habits
24 that will lead to improved student learning and achievement.
25 Each public school shall implement the following steps to
26 enforce regular school attendance:

27 (1) CONTACT, REFER, AND ENFORCE.--

28 (c) If an initial meeting does not resolve the
29 problem, the child study team shall implement interventions
30 that best address the problem. The interventions may include,
31 but need not be limited to:

