

Office of Compliance and Monitoring INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 20, 2021

TO: School Administrators

FROM: Monica Cortez, Assistant Superintendent

CC: Dustin Mancl

Phoebe Redmond

Student Services Division Administrators

SUBJECT: Outside Providers and Excused Absences for

Outside Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapies

The Student Services Division (SSD) has received inquiries from school personnel concerning the Clark County School District's (CCSD) obligation to allow outside ABA therapists to deliver services to students in schools during the instructional day. In addition, school personnel have inquired as to whether a student is medically excused if the student is removed during the school day to attend ABA therapy sessions.

Outside ABA therapists are not allowed to provide ongoing services to students during the school day. However, outside ABA therapists may conduct observations of their client and speak with their client's teacher, as long as the ABA therapist complies with all CCSD confidentiality and visitation policies.

Additionally, a student should not be excused for missing instruction during the school day due to appointments for related services, including ABA therapy sessions. Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 392.050(2) states that a student can be excused from school upon " (a) certificate in writing from any qualified physician acting within his or her authorized scope of practice, filed with the board of trustees immediately after its receipt, stating that the child is not able to attend school or that the child's attendance is inadvisable must be taken as satisfactory evidence by the board of trustees." This requires that the physician be either a medical doctor, osteopath, or homeopath NRS 0.040.

As a reminder, CCSD provides ABA interventions for students who require these interventions and schools should consult with their special education team for guidance.