SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REVIEW BOARD (SARB) was established by the California legislature in 1975 for the purpose of:

- Making a better effort to meet the needs of students with attendance or behavior problems.
- Promoting the use of alternatives to the juvenile court system.

To achieve these goals, the legislation provides for a multi-agency SARB which includes the following agencies:

- Children and Family Services
- Probation
- Law Enforcement
- Parents and/or other community representatives
- Community-Based Organizations
- Child and Welfare and Attendance Personnel
- School Guidance Personnel
- District Attorney's Office
- Health Representative

SARB Process starts with the identification of attendance and/or behavior problem followed by classroom, school site and district level interventions.

SARB is specifically charged with funding solutions to unresolved student attendance and disciplined problems by bringing together, on a regular basis, representatives of agencies that make up the board.

SARB further surveys available community resources, determines the appropriateness of their services, and makes recommendations to meet the needs of referred students.

SARB seeks to understand why students are experiencing attendance and behavior problems which have not been resolved through school and community efforts.

SPECIFIED LAWS RELATED TO ATTENDANCE

- **Education Code, Section 48200.** Students, between the ages of 6 and 18, are required to attend school full time, unless otherwise exempt.
- **Education Code, Section 48263.** Habitually truant and habitually insubordinate students may be referred to SARB.
- **Education Code, Section 48292, and Penal Code, Section 272.** Failure to attend school as required may result in the filing of a complaint against the parents with the District Attorney's Office.

FACTS RELATED TO NON-ATTENDANCE

- Children are absent more on Mondays and Fridays
- Children who are truant commit the majority of daytime burglaries.
- Children's absence patterns are established as early as kindergarten.
- Children's older siblings frequently set attendance patterns in a family.
- Children who are excessively absent suffer losses in educational achievement and perform poorly on tests.
- Children who are excessively absent are at greater risk of dropping out and becoming involved in delinquent behavior.