§ 3212. Definition of persons in parental relation and their duties; duties of certain other persons. 1. Definition. As used in this article, a person in parental relation to another individual shall include his father or mother, by birth or adoption, his step-father or step-mother, his legally appointed guardian, or his custodian. A person shall be regarded as the custodian of another individual if he has assumed the charge and care of such individual because the parents or legally appointed guardian of such individual have died, are imprisoned, are mentally ill, or have been committed to an institution, or because, they have abandoned or deserted such individual or are living outside the state or their whereabouts are unknown, or have designated the person pursuant to title fifteen-A of article five of the general obligations law as a person in parental relation to the child.

2. Duties of persons in parental relation. Every person in parental relation to another individual included by the provisions of part one of this article:

a. Shall submit at the time such individual begins to attend upon instruction evidence of age as required for the issuance of an employment certificate, or show that such evidence cannot be produced. When such evidence cannot be produced, or when circumstances exist which reasonably indicate that such individual may be a missing child, the superintendent of schools or his or her authorized representative shall report and make inquiry to the statewide central register for missing children pursuant to section eight hundred thirty-seven-e of the executive law. If such child appears to match a child registered with the statewide central register for missing children, or one registered with the national crime information center register, the superintendent or his or her authorized representative shall immediately contact the local law enforcement authority. No civil or criminal liability shall arise or attach to any school district or employee thereof for any act or omission to act as a result of, or in connection with, the duties or activities authorized or directed by this paragraph.

b. Shall cause such individual to attend upon instruction as hereinbefore required, and to comply with the provisions of part one of

this article with respect to the employment or occupation of minors in any business or service whatever.

c. Shall cause such individual to be placed in proper physical condition to attend upon required instruction, if his physical condition is remediable by the taking of reasonable measures.

d. Shall furnish proof that an individual who is not attending upon instruction at a public or parochial school in the city or district where the person in parental relation resides is attending upon required instruction elsewhere. Failure to furnish such proof shall be presumptive evidence that such individual is not attending.

e. Shall furnish, with respect to an individual from seventeen to twenty-one years of age, on demand of a duly authorized representative of the school authorities, satisfactory proof that he is able to speak, read and write English as required for the completion of the fifth year of the elementary school course of study, or cause such individual to submit to an examination to determine his ability in these respects.

3. Exception. A person in parental relation to another individual included by the foregoing provisions of this section shall not be subject thereto if it can be shown that he is unable to control such individual.

4. Duties of certain individuals from sixteen to twenty-one years of age. An individual from sixteen to twenty-one years of age, if not under the control of a person in parental relation, shall comply with such requirements of part one of this article as are applicable.

5. Duties of other persons.

a. No person shall induce another individual to absent himself from attendance upon required instruction or harbor him while he is absent or aid or abet him in violating any provision of part one of this article.

b. No person shall interfere with an attendance officer in the lawful

pursuit of his duties, or neglect or refuse to answer his lawful inquiries.

c. No person shall violate any provision of part one of this article in relation to employment of minors, duties of employers, issuance or transfer of any paper authorizing the employment of minors.

d. No person shall make a false oral or written statement in or in relation to any employment certificate or other paper required by part one of this article as to any matter required to appear therein.

f. No person shall present as his own any substitute, altered or transferred certificate or badge.

6. Birth certificates. For the purpose of part one of this article, the board of health upon request shall furnish to the school authorities, or to the person in parental relation to a minor, or to an individual from seventeen to twenty-one years of age, a duly certified transcript of the birth certificate, filed according to law, of an individual from five to twenty-one years of age.