

ATTENDANCE

OUR PHILOSOPHY:

Research is clear... the single most effective factor in student achievement is regular school attendance. In simple terms you cannot receive the benefit of a full high school experience without being here. We also feel that by the time a student reaches high school age they should share with their parent the responsibility of attending school. Consequently, regular attendance is a behavior that we reinforce through encouragement, promotion, and through the use of punitive consequences imposed through School Board Policy and PA Public School Code. It's non-negotiable. We need you here!

SCHOOL RESPONSE TO STUDENT ABSENCE

WHAT TO DO AFTER AN ABSENCE: Within 3 days of returning to school after an absence, students are required to submit a signed note from a parent or guardian explaining the reason for the absence.

Failure to turn in an excuse within THREE (3) school days will result in an illegal/unlawful absence, in accordance with the PA Public School Code.

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION: Parents will be notified of all absences via phone message on the day they occur. Letters are forwarded for Illegal absences after the 1st, 3rd, and 6th absence. Illegal absences will result in the filing of Truancy charges with the District Magistrate. Chronic and persistent absenteeism will be referred to the Office of Children and Youth and/or the Department of Juvenile Probation.

TEACHER RESPONSE TO STUDENT ABSENTEEISM

1. Teachers have the discretion to deny academic credit to any student absent more than 25% of the scheduled days (45 days for a year long course, 22.5 days for a semester long course).
2. Teachers have the discretion to deny make-up work for any student illegally or unlawfully absent.

EARLY DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL: Students who need to be excused for part of the school day should present a signed note from their parent/guardian to the main office on the morning of the absence.

MEDICALLY EXCUSED FROM SCHOOL - Only the Principal and/or the School Nurse may send a student home early from school. Students that leave school after contacting their parent without consulting with the Principal or Nurse will be marked illegal/unlawful.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS - A signed permission form from the Building Principal is required to go on an educational trip. Students are responsible for making arrangements with their teachers to make up all work.

FIELD TRIPS have an educational mission and require a signed permission form. Students with excessive absences and/or discipline referrals may not be permitted to attend. The Principal has the authority to approve or deny all requests.