

Truancy

The Board of Education provides each child with a continuing education which will prepare our students to assume adult roles and responsibilities. Therefore, regular attendance and punctuality are expected from all children enrolled in our schools. By state statute, responsibility for assuring that children attend school rests with the parent(s) or other person(s) having control of the child.

Every effort should be made to keep absences and tardiness to a minimum, and the Board recognizes the importance of early intervention for students exhibiting truancy behavior. Failure by parents or guardians to assure that a child attends school may constitute educational neglect. Educational neglect should be reported to the Connecticut Department of Children and Families. State statute defines a "truant" as an enrolled student between the age of five (5) and eighteen (18) who has four unexcused absences in one month, or ten unexcused absences in one year. Parents of children aged 5 and 6 may choose not to comply with the school attendance requirement. Such parents must appear in person at the school district office to fill out and sign a withdrawal form. School officials will provide information on the educational opportunities available within the district to any such parent requesting a withdrawal form.

Parents of children aged 16 and 17 may also choose not to comply with the school attendance requirement. Such parents must appear in person at the school to fill out and sign a withdrawal form. School officials will provide information on the educational opportunities available within the district to any such parent requesting a withdrawal form. The principal shall notify the school system district offices of all such withdrawals.

The school administration will make a concerted effort to prevent and remedy truancy in its early stages for students who are found to be truant. School personnel, wherever possible and as much as possible, will seek cooperation from parents and assist parents in remedying and preventing truancy.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes
10-184. Duties of parents.
10-198a. Policies and procedures concerning truants.

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