

For Students, school should be your first and most important job. You're learning about more than math and reading. You're learning how to show up for school on time every day, so that when you graduate and get a job, you'll know how to show up for work on time every day.

By high school, chronic absence is a leading warning sign that a student will drop out.

School only gets harder when you stay home too much. Sometimes it's tempting to stay home because you've got too much work, or you don't understand what's going on in class. But missing a day only makes that worse.

Students who attend school regularly are more likely to graduate and find good jobs. In fact, a high school graduate makes, on average, a million dollars more than a dropout over a lifetime.

If too many absences occur, it is still a problem whether they are excused or unexcused because they represent too much lost learning time in the classroom.

Too many absent students can affect the whole classroom and slow down instruction.

Your children can suffer academically if they miss 10 percent of the school year or about 18 days. That can be just one day every two weeks, and that can happen before you know it.

Sporadic absences, not just those on consecutive days of school, matter. Before you know it – just one or two days a month can add up to nearly 10 percent of the school year.



Attendance Secretary:

LaShay Ramirez

217-357-2136 x 1401

attendance
MATTERS

Notification of Absences

On the day of a student's absence, the parent or guardian is requested to call the school informing the school of the absence. If the parent or guardian does not call the school, the school will contact the parent or guardian by use of the School Reach telephone system by 10:00 AM to notify the parent of the reported absence.

Illinois Attendance Law

That whoever has custody or control of any child between the ages of 7 and 17 years of age shall cause such child to attend some public school in the district wherein the child resides the entire time it is in session during the regular school term.

Pupils below 7 years or over 16 years who are enrolled in any grades 1-12 in the public school shall attend the public school when it is in session during the regular school term.

Definitions Regarding Truancy

Truant

A student subject to compulsory school attendance who is absent without valid cause.

Chronic or Habitual Truant

A student subject to compulsory school attendance who is absent without valid cause from such attendance for 5% or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days.

2nd Semester Exam Absence Incentive

NOTE: All excused absences (for any reason) will count towards your four absence days for the final exam exemption.

If you have been absent (excused) for

- ⇒ Four days or fewer or 28 class periods or fewer for the year, and none of the absences are unexcused, (all attendance days from start of school through mid-term of 4th quarter)
- ⇒ Passing all classes (for 1st Quarter, 2nd Quarter, 1st Semester, 3rd Quarter, and Mid-Term of 4th quarter)

Unexcused Absences

When a student is absent and...

- The parent does not notify the school that the student is absent or
- The student absence is not an excused absence this is an unexcused absence. For more information, please see handbook.

Excused Absences

Listed below are excused absences which do not count toward absence consequences so long as the prescribed procedure is followed for each absence.

Students will receive an excused absence when gone from school for the following reasons. (These absences will show in Power School as E or a special code related to the reason.) If the requirements are not met for an absence to be excused, the absence will be deemed an unexcused absence.

- Medical/dental related appointments (when notification of reason for absence is made by parent AND verified with written confirmation from the doctor/hospital/dentist). Confirmation is expected when the student returns from the appointment or must be received by the office within 2 school days of the appointment. If confirmation is not received this absence will be marked as a personal illness day.
- Personal illness. Students are allowed 3 days/occurrences of personal illness days per semester. After the 3rd called in personal illness a doctors' note will be needed to make the absence an excused absence.