

TRUANCY

If a student is absent without a signed parental excuse or if the student leaves school or class without permission of the teacher or administrator in charge, the student shall be considered truant. A “habitual truant” shall be defined as a student of compulsory attendance age who has four (4) unexcused absences from school or from class in any one month or ten (10) unexcused absences during any school year. Absences due to suspension or expulsion shall not be counted in the total of unexcused absences.

In order to reduce the incident of truancy, parents of all students shall be notified in writing at the beginning of each school year of their obligation to insure that all children of compulsory attendance age attend school. Parents shall be required to acknowledge in writing awareness of their obligations and to furnish the school with a telephone number or other means of contacting them during the school day.

The school shall establish a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences. When students fail to report on a regularly scheduled school day and school personnel have received no indication that the parents or guardians is aware of the absence, school personnel shall make a reasonable effort to notify the parent by telephone.

When a student is declared “habitually truant”, the school shall require a meeting between the student’s parents or guardians and appropriate school personnel to review and evaluate the reasons for the student being “habitually truant”. Such meeting shall be held not later than ten (10) school days after the student’s fourth unexcused absence in a month or tenth unexcused absence in a year.

Penalties:

A student shall be given a warning on his/her first truancy offense. On the second offense, the student may be given a three-day in-school suspension or be suspended from school for up to three days. Additional truanancies shall be grounds for in-school suspension, suspension and/or expulsion.

No credit shall be permitted for any student for any class during which time the student was truant.

ADOPTED: 11/93

REVISED: 11/94

LEGAL REFS.; C.R.S. 22-14-101 et seq. (dropout prevention and student re-engagement)
C.R.S. 22-33-104 (compulsory school attendance)
C.R.S. 22-33-105 (suspension/expulsion)
C.R.S. 22-33-107 (enforcement of compulsory school attendance)
1 CCR 301-67, Rule 2.01 (7) (definition of “dropout” student)
1 CCR 301-78 Rules 1.00 et seq. (standardized calculation for counting student attendance and truancy)

CROSS REFS.; IHBG, Home Schooling
JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages
JFC, Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts
JH, Student Absences and Excuses