

STUDENTS

Series 500

Policy Title Truancy - Unexcused Absences

Code No. 501.10

Regular attendance by the students at school is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. The habit of good attendance established early is one which helps a person be successful throughout his or her lifetime. More and more, employers, colleges and vocational schools expect good attendance and are checking attendance records. They are aware that good and prompt attendance indicates dependability in a student.

Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students will attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center.

Truancy is the failure to attend school for the minimum number of days established in the school calendar by the board. Truancy is the act of being absent without a reasonable excuse. A student absence may be excused or unexcused. The type of absence, whether excused or unexcused, shall be determined by the building principals as set forth in the Parent Student Handbook.

Students are subject to disciplinary action for truancy including suspension and expulsion. It is within the discretion of the principal to determine, in light of the circumstances, whether a student may make up work missed because of truancy. Students receiving special education services will not be assigned to supervised study hall or in school suspension unless the goals and objectives of the student's Individualized Education Program are capable of being met.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy. The administrative regulations will indicate the disciplinary action to be taken for truancy.

Legal Reference:

Iowa Code §§ 294.4; 299
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4).

Cross Reference:

206.03 Secretary
410.03 Truancy Officer
501.00 Student Attendance
503.00 Student Discipline
504.00 Student Activities
506.00 Student Records

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