

BOARD POLICY 1460

Pupil Attendance

Regular school attendance is required of all pupils enrolled in elementary and secondary schools under Kansas Compulsory Attendance Statute (KSA 72-3120). The Kansas Compulsory School Attendance Law holds parents responsible for requiring a child under their control or charge who is between seven (7) and less than eighteen (18) years of age to attend school on a continuous basis.

BOARD POLICY 1461

Reporting Process – Pupils Not Attending School and Inexcusably Absent Pupils (Truants)

In compliance with requirements of the Kansas Compulsory School Attendance Law, reports shall be filed with appropriate authorities when a child is not enrolled in a public school or non-public school or when a child is enrolled in school and is inexcusably absent.

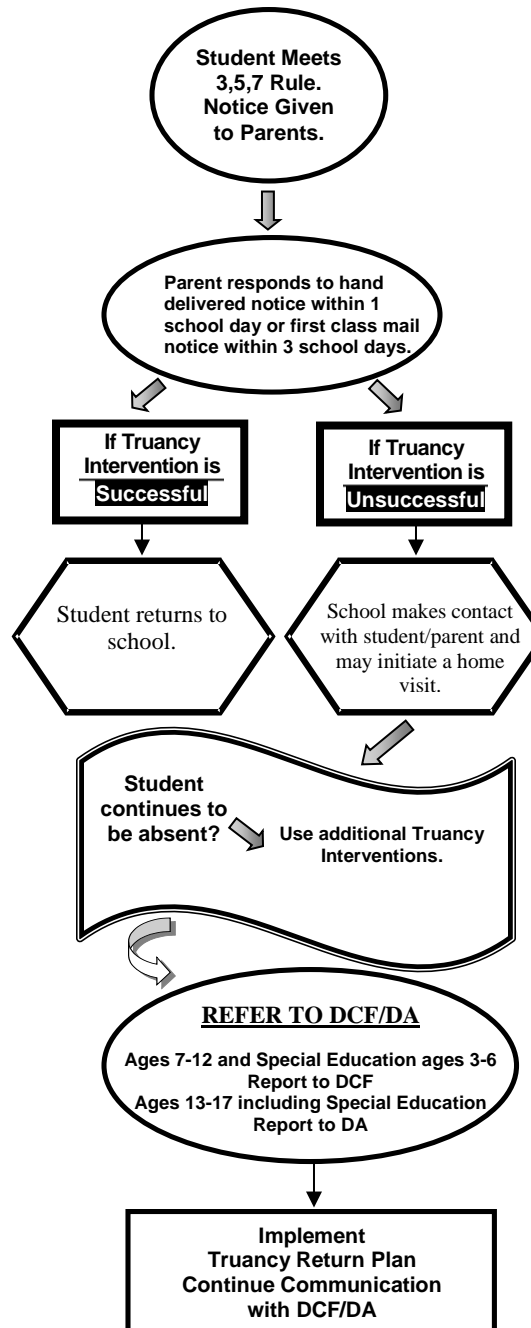
3,5,7 Rule

Inexcusably absent for a substantial part of a school day on either three (3) consecutive school days, or five (5) school days in any semester or seven (7) school days in any school year, whichever of the aforementioned occurs first.

A student's attendance pattern must meet this rule before he/she can be reported to the Office of DCF or to Office of the District Attorney.

*Refer to Board Policy 1461

USD 259 ATTENDANCE REPORTING PROCEDURES FOR INEXCUSABLE ABSENCES



Definition of Excused Absence

The "Valid Excuse for Absences" is defined as follows:

1. Medical or dental treatment, examination or recuperation;
2. Death/serious illness in immediate family;
3. Approval by school authorities, secured prior to the absence;
4. Circumstances or conditions which, in the opinion of the attending school principal or designee constitutes a valid excuse.
5. Under the law (ICEOMC), WPS may grant up to 5 days excused absences per school year for a military-connected student who parent of guardian is an active duty, Guard or Reserve member who has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or is immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting; if absence is preapproved; student is in good standing; student has a prior record of good attendance; missed work is completed and turned in within allotted time period; and the absence is not during standardized testing dates.

Note: Students accumulating more than 12 days/96 periods of illness will be considered to have excessive absences and will be required to provide a doctor's note for all future absences OR be recorded as truant/inexcusably absent.

Definition of Inexcusable Absence for Substantial Part of a School Day

"Substantial Part of a School Day" is defined as follows:

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Board of Education has set a "Substantial Part of the School Day" as being inexcusably absent four (4) class periods of any part of a school day.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

The Board of Education has set a "Substantial Part of the School Day" as being inexcusably absent 1 ½ hours in either the morning or afternoon of a school day.

USD 259 Mission

The mission of the Truancy Program Office is to assist in providing a unified school and community effort towards quick response to negative school attendance and educational neglect issues by identifying, developing and implementing plans and procedures to assure that all students learn the skills and acquire the knowledge necessary for success at continuing stages of their lives.

USD 259 Goals

- Increase accuracy in reporting truants to the appropriate agency.
- Monitor and react quickly to non-attendance/enforce the law.
- Establish regular school attendance as community protocol.
- Reconnecting disengaged students to school.

USD 259 Expected Outcomes

As each school becomes more committed and responsive to these goals, USD 259 will create a lasting systematic and cultural change within the district. Families, school, and community constituents will increasingly value regular school attendance as the pivotal contributing factor in school success for each child. Achievement of these goals will be evidenced by a continuous reduction in the number of non-attending students and a corresponding continuous increase in the number of USD 259 graduates.

Community Intervention

Help from within school

School's Counselor/Social Worker (CALL YOUR SCHOOL)
School Resource Officer – WPD (CALL YOUR SCHOOL)

County/State Agencies

Office of the District Attorney 660-9725
Dept. for Children and Families 337-6600
Juvenile Intake and Assessment 660-5350

Community Support

Pando 973-5110
Kansas Children Service League 942-4261
• Parent Help Line
USD 259 Translation/Language Line 866-8000
United Way Info Line 267-4327
USD 259 McKinney-Vento
Homeless Program 973-4670



USD 259 Truancy Office
Lena Grill, Truancy Supervisor
412 S. Main, Room 51, Wichita, KS 67202

(316) 973-7944

“Graduation is our Goal”

REPORTING TRUANCY

3

CONSECUTIVE DAYS

5

DAYS IN A SEMESTER

7

DAYS A YEAR

IT'S THE LAW