

ATTENDANCE

Research shows that regular school attendance is vital to academic success and that student achievement improves with good attendance. Students must attend school regularly and be on time to classes in order to maximize instructional benefits. Additionally, regular school attendance and punctuality develop self-discipline and responsibility. Not only is school attendance compulsory, but it should also be encouraged and expected.

Tucker County Schools will cooperate with parents and students to try to improve their children's attendance, but parents and students must assume ultimate responsibility for regular school attendance.

Terms

Absence - not being present in class or approved school activity. Any student who is physically absent from school must be counted absent.

Excused absence - (1) illness/injury verified by a medical excuse; (2) death in the immediate family (limited to three days per death); (3) legal or religious obligation; (4) failure of bus to run (note from bus driver or parent may be required); (5) approved school activities; (6) calamity (such as a fire in the home, flood or emergency); and (7) parent notes (up to ten days per year)

Unexcused absence - any absences not covered above. Suspension days are unexcused absences.

Early departure - any time a parent or guardian receives permission to sign out a student prior to the end of the instructional day

Skipping - any absence from school/class and/or approved school activity without administrative permission

Tardiness - entry to school or class after the designated starting time

Verification - written documentation explaining absences. Verification is due upon return to school.

Parent Notification Process

3 Absences

On the third (3rd) unexcused absence, parents or guardians will receive written notification from the Tucker County Schools Attendance Director.

5 Absences

On the fifth (5th) unexcused absence, the Tucker County Schools Attendance Director will send a legal notice scheduling a conference with school officials and parents.

More than 10 Absences

If the student, including those who are 18 years of age or older, and parent or guardian does not comply with the provisions of the five (5) day legal notice, truancy charges will be filled in the Magistrate Court of Tucker County. Failure to appear or comply before the Magistrate Court may result in a warrant for the arrest of the parent, student or both.