

## Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities

### POLICY

**Policy #:** 01-WLS-ALL-0214  
**Effective Date:** 08-14-17  
**Person Responsible:** Director of Children's Services

**Subject:** School Attendance  
**Last Revision:**

**Approvals/Date:**

Brent Bauer 12-20-17  
Superintendent, WCBDD

Date

John A. Motion 12/20/17  
Board President, WCBDD

Date

A positive school climate requires students to:

- follow school rules;
- accept guidance from school staff;
- respect themselves and others; and
- be active citizens.

Ohio House Bill 410 defines Truancy and Excessive Absences. Regular school attendance is one component of a positive school climate.

- "Chronic truant" is removed from the law;
- Definition of "habitual truant" changed from days to hours. The new definition is:
  - Absent 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse;
  - Absent 42 or more hours in one school month without a legitimate excuse;
  - Absent 72 or more hours in one school year without a legitimate excuse.
- Includes "excessive absences":
  - Absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse;
  - Absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse.

The Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities has a high expectation for a safe school. Violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by students will be addressed in a manner that ensures the safety of all participants (students, families, and staff) and is appropriate to the student's developmental age. Student conduct shall be governed by the rules and provisions of the Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities. This positive supports policy will be reviewed periodically. It is the responsibility of students, teachers and administrators to maintain a school environment that:

- Encourages all students to be actively engaged in their learning;
- Has consequences that are fair and developmentally appropriate;
- Relies on preventive and supportive interventions to support positive behavior and academic outcomes; and
- Fairly enforces the expectation for a safe school.

All students and families are expected to act in a safe and appropriate manner when participating in school or school-related activities, regardless of location. The district has age-appropriate developmental strategies ranging from preventative approaches to supportive interventions to address student misbehavior, including excessive absence. Suspension and/or expulsion will only be used once other options have been exhausted, unless the student's behavior poses an immediate threat to the safety of him/herself or others.

References: HB 410

Policy: 01-WLS-ALL-0010

Procedures: 02-ALL-ALL-0622 (BS)  
02-WLS-ALL-0155 (AD)  
02-WLS-ALL-0879 (AD)

Form: 03-ALL-ALL-0912

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