

Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities

PROCEDURE

Procedure #: 02-WLS-ALL-0879 (AD)
Effective Date: 08-14-17
Person Responsible: Director of Children's Services

Subject: School Attendance
Last Revision: 10-18-18

Approvals/Date: Brent Coburn 10/23/18 Superintendent, WCBDD
Date
Sharon J. Flick 10.23.18 Department Director
Date

The following definitions will apply:
Habitual Truant - 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.
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.
Instructional Hours - 6 hours per school day
Regular school attendance is an important ingredient in students' academic success. Excessive absences interfere with students' progress in mastering knowledge and skills necessary to graduate from high school. To support academic success for all students, the district (Wood Lane School) will partner with students and their families to identify and reduce barriers to regular school attendance. The school will utilize a continuum of strategies to reduce student absences including, but not limited to:
- Notifying the parent or guardian of a student's absence;
- Developing and implementing an absence intervention plan on a case-by-case basis, which may include supportive services for students and families;
- Counseling;
- Parent education and parenting programs;
- Mediation;
- Intervention programs available through juvenile authorities or the local district; or
- Referral for truancy if applicable.
According to HB 410 (August 2, 2017) Ohio law requires that if a student is absent with or without legitimate excuse from school 38 or more hours in one school month, or 65 or more school hours in a school year, the following will occur.
- The school will notify the child's parent, guardian, or custodian of the child's absences after the date of the absences equaling 65 hours, and at equal intervals of 65 hours as applicable.
- If a student's absences surpass the defined limits, the principal of the school shall assign the student to a district absence intervention team, which will develop an intervention plan for that student. The intervention team will be comprised of the parent, principal, teacher, nurse, district representative and DD Service Coordinator when applicable. Notice of the plan developed by the student's absence intervention team will be provided to all members of the team. The team may meet quarterly to update the excessive absence intervention plan.
- At no time, however, will students be expelled or suspended out of school due to excessive absences or truancy.

References: HB 410
Policies: 01-WLS-ALL-0010
01-WLS-ALL-0214
Procedures: 02-ALL-ALL-0622 (BS)
02-WLS-ALL-0155 (AD)
Form: 03-ALL-ALL-0912

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