

Updated District 833 Attendance Policy

District 833 has recently updated procedures relating to its Attendance Policy. The district's goal is for students to attend school regularly so they can meet their potential as learners and peers. District staff want to work with parents/guardians to assure that each student is in compliance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. If a student is absent, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to contact the attendance line at their school.

Elementary School Attendance Information

School attendance is significantly related to the academic, social and emotional functioning of students. Educational staff, parents, and students share in the responsibility to promote regular attendance and we see a higher level of improvement in school attendance when we collaborate effectively. Minnesota State law requires that every child between the age of 7 and 18 years of age shall attend a public or private school and that the parent or guardian is obligated to compel the attendance of the child.

The school determines whether the absences are excused or unexcused. When absences, tardies, and/or early releases become excessive for any reason, parents will be contacted to develop a plan to support regular school attendance.

District 833 has recently updated procedures relating to the Attendance Policy. Here are some highlights of the policy and procedures that we would like you to take note of:

- A student will be marked tardy if they are 10 minutes or more late to school.
 - If a student is 60 minutes late or more, they will be marked as a ½ day absence
 - We keep track of early releases. If a student leaves 60 or more minutes early from school, it will be marked as a ½ day absence.
 - If your child misses 7-10 days of school due to illness, the school nurse will make efforts to communicate with you to better understand the illnesses and help you develop a plan to address any ongoing physical and/or mental health concerns.
 - Absences are marked unexcused without a valid reason. If your child is absent and you do not call in, the school will make reasonable efforts to contact you. However, if you do not contact the school within 5 school days, the absence will be marked as unexcused.
 - If there is a problem with unexcused absences the school will work with you and your child to implement interventions to improve attendance. However, if your child receives 3-6 unexcused absences, and attendance does not improve, we are obligated to refer to the Washington County Truancy Office.
 - Unexcused Absences/Tardy/Early Release: Examples include, but are not limited to; car trouble, visiting, oversleeping, shopping, needed at home (i.e. babysitting), family vacation (not prearranged), missed bus, alarm clock didn't work, no call or note from parent regarding absence, and personal grooming needs.
 - Excused Absences/ Tardy/Early Release: Parent/doctor verified illness (up to 10 absences due to illness), family emergencies, scheduled appointments, religious holidays as approved by the School Board, prearranged family vacations, suspension, court appearances, exceptional circumstances (school's discretion), extreme weather conditions preventing students from getting to school safely, and school bus transportation problems.
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Secondary School Attendance Information

School attendance is significantly related to the academic, social and emotional functioning of students. Educational staff, parents, and students share in the responsibility to promote regular attendance and we see a higher level of improvement in school attendance when we collaborate effectively. Minnesota State law requires that every child between 7 and 18 years of age shall attend a public or private school and that the parent or guardian is obligated to compel the attendance of the child.

The school determines whether the absences are excused or unexcused. When absences, tardies, and/or early releases become excessive for any reason, parents will be contacted to develop a plan to support regular school attendance.

District 833 has recently updated procedures relating to the Attendance Policy. Here are some highlights of policy and procedures that we would like you to take note of:

- A student will be marked as an unexcused absence if they are 10 minutes or more late to a class period.
- If your child misses 7-10 days school due to illness, the school nurse will make efforts to communicate with you to better understand the illnesses and help you make a plan to address any ongoing physical and/or mental health concerns.
- Absences are marked unexcused without a valid reason. If your child is absent and you do not call in, the school will make reasonable efforts to contact you. However, if you do not contact the school within 5 school days, the absence will be marked as unexcused.
- If there is a problem with unexcused absences, the school will work with you and your child to implement interventions to improve attendance. However, if your child receives 5 or more unexcused absences, we are obligated to refer to the Washington County Truancy Office to schedule an Attendance Intervention Meeting.
- Unexcused Absences/Tardy/Early Release: Examples include, but are not limited to; car trouble, visiting, overslept, shopping, needed at home (i.e. babysitting), family vacation (i.e. not prearranged), missed bus, alarm clock didn't work, no call or note from parent regarding absence, and personal grooming needs.
- Excused Absences/ Tardy/Early Release: Parent/doctor verified illness, (up to 10 absences due to illness), family emergencies, scheduled appointments, religious holidays as approved by the school board, prearranged family vacations, suspension, court appearances, exceptional circumstances (school's discretion), extreme weather conditions preventing students from getting to school safely and school bus transportation problems.