

## Independence School District Attendance Policy

The Independence School District is committed to quality education for every student. We recognize that preparing learners today for college or career readiness requires very competitive skills. In order to meet these learning goals for our students, attendance is extremely important. When a child misses out on instruction at school, even the best options we have to try and catch him/her up don't equal the effectiveness of being in class with peers and highly-qualified educators.

We know that when barriers exist preventing a student from regular school attendance and/or participation in class, it is our responsibility to address that situation. The Independence School District will use increasing levels of support as student absences or behaviors that prevent full participation at school increase. It is expected that the home, student, and school work together as a team in this process. Students are expected to come to school and attend each class.

**Students who stay home from school are required to have a parent/guardian call the school attendance office by 9:00 a.m. each day you are absent.** WE encourage medical appointments to be made after school hours whenever possible to reduce the amount of learning time lost.

Parents/ guardians of students who did not call the school will be contacted by the District to notify them of the student absence and request absence verification. Students who arrive late or check out early must sign in/out in the office. **Only persons listed on the data sheet or PowerSchool will be permitted to check students out from school. ID's will be checked.**

**In order to participate in school activities and after-school events, students must attend at least three and one-half hours of school that day.** Excessive absences may affect your grades and will be addressed by school administrators, family school liaisons, and/or School Resource Officers.

It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with his/her teachers to make up work missed during an excused absence. Students will have one day for each excused absence, plus one more day to make up missed work.

*Students who do not meet the aforementioned criteria will be considered to be in non-compliance with these attendance procedures and will be assigned an unexcused absence or time missed. Interventions for unexcused absences:*

Attendance is one of our school improvement goals this year. Truman needs to have 90% of its students attending 90% of the time. Missouri School Improvement Plan requires schools achieve and maintain this goal. Since attendance is important for reaching our goal of 90% attendance along with continued academic achievement in classes, **Truman requires students who want to attend dances, prom and purchase and maintain parking passes to achieve 90% attendance and to maintain 90% throughout the year.** We know our students have the ability and capacity to reach this goal and exceed previous year's attendance.

### **10 Day Attendance Policy**

Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in determining a student's academic success. Due to this, students who accumulate in excess of ten days in any class are subject to loss of credit for that class (BOE 2310). (Days of student suspension are not counted as days absent for purposes of this policy.) When unusual or extreme circumstances occur, exceptions to this stated policy will be made only by administrative discretion on an individual basis. Beginning the first day of school, attendance will be closely monitored.