TREMONT CUSD 702

Absenteeism and Truancy Policy

Educational research indicates attendance is one of the most important variables leading to good achievement. Additionally, we believe good attendance teaches young people commitment, responsibility, and maturity. Good attendance has obvious carryover into the work force by establishing a correlation between work ethic and productivity.

School board policy 7:70 (updated February 12, 2026) addresses the development of this absenteeism and truancy policy. This policy will be added to the school website and student handbooks as well.

Absences should be reported to the building secretary by phone or email by 9:00 am. Absences cannot be excused without verification from a parent/guardian.

Excused Absences

Absences are considered excused when there is a valid cause for the absence. Examples of valid causes include:

- Illness, including physical, mental, or behavioral health of the student
- Death in the immediate family or family emergency
- Medical/dental appointment (with documentation of the appointment)
- Observance of a religious holiday
- Circumstances that cause reasonable concern for the mental, emotional, or physical health or safety of the student
- Other situations that are determined to be unavoidable or extraordinary and are beyond the control of the student

Unexcused Absences

Absences are considered unexcused when there is no valid cause for the absence. Procedures to identify the causes for unexcused absences will include:

- Interviews with the student
- Interviews with the parent/guardian of the student
- Interviews with other school personnel who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance issues

Chronic Truancy

Chronic truancy will be addressed through a variety of interventions with the intention of increasing student attendance. These interventions include:

- Parent conferences
- Student counseling services through district personnel (counselor, social worker, etc)
- Communication regarding any community services that are available to address the needs of chronically truant students
- Disciplinary measures may be taken if interventions prove to be unsuccessful at increasing regular attendance
- Truancy services offered by the Regional Office of Education may be utilized if interventions or school disciplinary measures prove to be unsuccessful.

Use of Chronic Absence Data

School administration will collect and review chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families to encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success. The review shall include an analysis of chronic absence data from each school in the district. Intervention strategies will be based on the analysis of this data.

Policy Updated February 12, 2026