

**THE SCHOOL  
DISTRICT OF  
HAVERFORD  
TOWNSHIP**

SECTION: PUPILS  
TITLE: ATTENDANCE  
ADOPTED:  
REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose SC 1327, 1330</p> <p>2. Authority SC 1327, 1329</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 11.21</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">204. ATTENDANCE</p> <p>The Board of Education requires that school-aged pupils enrolled in the schools of this district attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the State. The educational program offered by this district is predicated upon the presence of the pupil and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation.</p> <p>Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that the school is in session, except that a principal or teacher may excuse a student for temporary absences when s/he receives satisfactory evidence of such mental, physical, or other urgent conditions which may reasonably cause the student's absence.</p> <p>The Board considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school: illness of the student, danger to health from serious exposure, quarantine, recovery from accident, required court attendance, death in family, and doctor or dentist appointment when necessary during school hours.</p> <p>All absences occasioned by the observance of the student's religion shall be excused, and no student so excused shall be deprived of an award or eligibility to compete for an award or the opportunity to make up a test given on the religious holiday.</p> <p><u>Readmission Procedure</u></p> <p>After any absence, the student, upon returning to school, must present a written excuse signed by his/her parent or guardian, or other communication to the principal, attendance office, or person designated, in order to be readmitted.</p> <p><u>Make-up of Work</u></p> <p>The student shall be responsible for making up the work missed.</p>
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Truancy

Regular attendance in school is a requisite for success. Truancy or unexcused absence cannot be tolerated. Every student is expected to be present in each of his/her assigned classes during the day. Unexcused absences from any class, or from part of any class, is considered a serious offense.

1. First Offense

On a first charge of truancy, the truant and his/her parent must attend a conference with the principal or his/her delegated representative before the student can be readmitted to class. The conferees shall discuss the truancy in detail and explain the necessity for attendance regulations and the ramifications of a reoccurrence.

2. Disciplinary action

Continued truancy shall result in disciplinary action ranging from a denial of all extracurricular privileges to a recommendation of expulsion or suspension from school for the balance of the semester or an appropriate length of time. However, before any disciplinary action is imposed, a complete investigation shall be conducted to determine if the problem causing the truancy can be resolved or alleviated.

3. Court Procedure

Truancy will result in a formal letter warning that the district will take the parents and students to magistrate court. If continued more than three (3) days, the school district will schedule with the local magistrate a hearing and, if needed, request the attendance and cooperation of other agencies that may assist or work with the family.

4. Parents' Responsibility

Parental responsibility for regular and punctual attendance is expected by the citizens and the Board.

Title 22  
Sec. 11.22, 11.28  
SC 1327, 1329

Attendance need not always be within the school facilities, but a student will be considered to be in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board, or at the place where the student is receiving approved tutorial instruction or health care, or at the place where the student is engaged in an approved and properly supervised work-study or career education program, or at home when the student is receiving approved homebound instruction.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 5.222</p>	<p>The Board shall consider each student assigned to a program of independent study to be in regular attendance for the program, provided that s/he is under the guidance of a staff member so assigned and reports weekly to such staff member the place in which s/he is conducting study and regularly demonstrates progress toward the objectives of the course of study.</p>
<p>SC 510, 1318</p>	<p>Repeated infractions of Board policy requiring the attendance of enrolled students may constitute such misconduct and disobedience as to warrant the suspension or expulsion of the student from the regular school program.</p> <p>It shall be the policy of the Board to consider the effectiveness and appropriateness to the pupil's needs of the educational program that is offered each child who habitually and repeatedly absents him/herself from such program.</p> <p>In case any child of compulsory school age cannot be kept in school on account of incorrigibility, truancy, insubordination or other bad conduct, or if the presence of any child attending school is detrimental to the welfare of such school on account of the above described conditions, the Board may proceed against said child before the Juvenile Court or other body provided by law, for incorrigible, truant, insubordinate, or delinquent children.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall promulgate rules and regulations to enforce the Board's responsibility for delinquent children after the Board has classified a child as delinquent.</p> <p>The Board shall excuse the following students from the requirements of attendance at the schools of this district:</p>
<p>SC 1330</p>	<p>1. On certification by a physician or submission of other satisfactory evidence and on approval of the Department of Education, children who are unable to attend school or apply themselves to study for mental, physical or other reasons so urgent as to preclude regular attendance.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 11.5, 11.32</p>	<p>2. Students enrolled in nonpublic or private schools in which the subjects and activities prescribed by law are taught, except that such students and students attending college who are also enrolled part-time in the schools of this district shall be counted as being in attendance in this district.</p>
<p>SC 1327</p>	<p>3. Students sixteen or seventeen years of age whose enrollments in a private trade or business school have been approved.</p>

SC 1330	4. Children fifteen years of age, and fourteen years of age who have completed sixth grade, who are engaged in farm work or private domestic service under duly issued permits.
SC 1330	5. Children sixteen years of age regularly employed during the school session and holding a lawfully issued employment certificate.
Title 22 Sec. 11.34	The Board may excuse the following students from the requirements of attendance at the schools of this district:
SC 1327	1. Homebound children unable to attend on the recommendation of the school physician.
SC 1327	2. Students enrolled in special schools conducted by the Delaware County Intermediate Unit or by the Department of Education.
SC 1332, 1333	The Board may report to appropriate authorities infractions of the law regarding the attendance of students below the age of seventeen. The Board shall issue notice to those parents and guardians who fail to comply with the statutory requirements of compulsory attendance that such infractions of the statute will be prosecuted.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the attendance of students which
Title 22 Sec. 11.1, 11.3	1. Insure a school session which is in conformity with requirements of the rules of the State Board.
SC 1332, 1339	2. Govern the keeping of attendance records in accordance with rules of the State Board.
	3. Identify the habitual truant, investigate the cause(s) of his/her behavior, and consider modification of his/her educational program to meet particular needs and interests.
	4. Insure that students absent for any reason have an opportunity to make up work they missed.

