

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY REDUCTION**

The Seabrook School Administration and the Seabrook Police Department are concerned that the issues of student tardiness and absenteeism are having a negative impact on the educational goals that have been established for Seabrook students. As a result, we have come together to draft a policy, which will create a positive system of accountability.

**Definitions:**

**Tardiness:** More than three (3) days in an academic grading period where the student has arrived after 7:35 a.m. and after the beginning of the academic day.

**Absences:** More than five (5) absences in an academic grading period.

**School Attendance Team:** Shall consist of the two (2) Principals or their designees; the Assistant Principal; the School Resource Officer; and other personnel the schools may choose to include in the consultation from time to time.

**Parental Responsibility:**

It is the responsibility of every parent of a child between the ages of six (6) and sixteen (16) to ensure the attendance of their children at school.

We respectfully request that the parent of any child who will be late to school or absent from school, notify the Elementary/Middle School office as soon as possible.

Because school attendance is crucial to your child's education and future, we encourage parents to make every effort to overcome problems of tardiness and absenteeism. If your child or your family has circumstances that are impacting your ability to comply with this standard, please advise us so that we can provide the appropriate level of intervention to assist you and your child.

**School and Police Responsibility:**

School Districts may make bylaws, in accordance with state law, concerning truants and children between the ages of six (6) and sixteen (16) years, not attending school and to compel attendance of such children. (RSA 193:16)

The school administration and the police will collaborate on the enforcement of this policy in an effort to support families; to encourage student and parental responsibility under the law; to develop life skills; and to meet the academic goals that have been established for our students.

**DATE:**

**Adopted:**

**Reviewed:**

**Revised:** September 13, 2004

**Cancellation:**

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(continued)

**Response to Tardiness:**

When a student is tardy more than three (3) times in an academic grading period, the school attendance team shall meet to consider the facts underlying the child's tardiness. The goal of the school attendance team will be to apply the personal knowledge of team members to the facts surrounding this particular child and family, and to find a common sense solution to address the problem.

The team meeting will result in a letter being issued to the parent of the child, which will notify the parent that the threshold for actionable tardiness has been met. The letter will offer the parent and child the support and assistance of the school staff and will define the probable responses and consequences for future tardiness.

The responses and consequences may include one or more of the following:

- 1. Supportive intervention for the family and child.**
- 2. In house tools such as school detentions.**
- 3. Home visits by law enforcement personnel to check on the well being of students.**
- 4. A report of educational neglect to the Division of Children Youth and Families.**
- 5. A CHINS petition for truancy against the child.**
- 6. A criminal complaint against the parent for neglecting their duty of care.**

**Response to Absences:**

When a student is absent more than five (5) times in an academic quarter, the school attendance team shall meet to consider the facts underlying the child's absenteeism. The goal of the school attendance team will be to, apply the personal knowledge of team members to the facts surrounding this particular child and family, and to find a common sense solution to overcome the problem.

The team meeting will result in a letter being issued to the parent of the child, which will notify the parent that the threshold for actionable absences has been met. The letter will offer the parent and child the support and assistance of the school staff and will define the probable responses and consequences for future absenteeism.

- 1. Supportive intervention for the family and child.**
- 2. A request for a letter from a doctor confirming that the health concerns are impacting the child's attendance.**
- 3. In house tools such as school detentions.**
- 4. Home visits by law enforcement personnel to check on the well-being of students.**

**DATE:**

**Adopted:**

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**Revised:** September 13, 2004

**Cancellation:**