



Richard J. Kinsella
Magnet School of Performing Arts

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School Begins at 7:45 am
School Ends at 3:15 Monday- Thursday
Friday's at 2:15pm
Early Dismissal at 11:15AM

Attendance Matters

Excessive Absences May Result in Retention (Repeat Grade)

Regular school attendance is the foundation upon which learning takes place. The Hartford Public School's hope is to create a positive understanding that **GOOD ATTENDANCE** is rewarded at the end of the school year. There are **182 days** in a school year. If your child is absent, academic lessons are missed and ultimately your child falls behind. The Magnet Parent/Student compact which you signed mandates a **95% attendance rate** for the year. There are negative consequences should your child not maintain this attendance rate.

IT IS THE LAW!

Connecticut State Law says: "Each parent or guardian of a child over 5 years of age shall ensure such child attends a public school regularly during the hours and terms of that school".

EXAMPLES OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

- Medical appointments and/or medical condition
- Suspension or expulsion
- Family emergencies, death in the family
- Court appearances
- Religious Holiday

EXAMPLES OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

- Oversleeping
- Missed bus
- Family vacation
- Inclement weather
- Travel distance

NOTE: All unexcused absences and tardiness prevents a child from being recognized for perfect attendance for the year.

IF STUDENT IS ABSENT:

When a student is absent the parent or guardian must send a note to school when child returns.

- If a child is absent 1 to 2 days a note is required and it must include:
 - Date of absences
 - Child's full name and classroom
 - Reason for absence (s)
- If the child is absent 3 or more days a doctor's note is required.

WHAT IS TRUANCY?

Truancy is when a student has **4 or more absences in ONE MONTH OR 10 un-excused absences in one school year.**

When a child is truant (absent for many days) a FWSN (Family With Service Needs) Referral is completed and the school makes every effort to work with the family. This referral authorizes the school to do a home visit.

WHAT IS HABITUAL TRUANCY?

Habitual Truancy is when a student has **20 or more absences in one school year.**

TARDY (ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL)

- 3 tardies equal to ONE absence
- Child must sign-in upon entrance and get a late pass before reporting to the classroom