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Superintendent of Schools

Susan Kalt Moreau, Ph.D.
Deputy Superintendent

P.O. Box 450
BRISTOL, CT 06011-0450

September 17, 2012

Dear Bristol Schools Parent/Guardian,

This letter is intended to explain new legislation regarding student attendance in school. In June, 2012, the Connecticut legislature revised section 10-198a regarding truancy, and excused and unexcused absences.

A note from the parent/guardian will be required after each absence. The note must include the days of absence and the reason for the absence and be signed by the parent/guardian within 10 days of the absence.

A distinction is made based upon the number of total days of absence as noted below:

- A. For absences one through nine, a student's absences from school are considered excused when the student's parent/guardian approves such absence and submits appropriate documentation, including a signed note.
- B. For the tenth absence and all absences thereafter, the following are considered excused absences:
 1. student illness – verified by a licensed medical professional regardless of the length of absence;
 2. Religious observance;
 3. Death in family or other emergency beyond the control of the student's family;
 4. Mandated court appearances (documentation required);
 5. Lack of transportation that is normally provided;
 6. Extraordinary education opportunities pre-approved by the school administrator;
 7. Out-of-School suspension

Absences for other than the listed reasons are considered unexcused/truant.

When students are not in school, they miss important learning opportunities. Please make every effort to have your child at school, on time, every day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Kalt Moreau".

Susan Kalt Moreau, Ph.D.