

Attendance Policy

Regular school attendance is a necessary part of a student's education. Excessive absences impair a student's educational progress, impacts whether the student passes or fails a grade, and may result in court proceedings and/or loss of driving privileges.

Truancy

A student may be deemed truant after five (5) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a calendar month, or ten (10) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a 90-calendar-day period.

After 5 unexcused absences – a letter will be sent home to the parent/legal guardian.

After 15 total absences – must have a doctor's note to return to school.

The following constitutes an unexcused absence: Shopping trips, Pleasure trips, Suspension from school, Appointments without prior approval except in case of emergency, Truancy, Other avoidable absences.

The following constitutes an excused absence: Personal illness, Illness of an immediate family member, Death in the family, Religious holidays of the student's religious faith, Required court appearances or subpoena by a law enforcement agency, Special events, including, but limited to, important public functions, student conferences, student state/national competitions, administrative approved exceptional cases of family need, Scheduled doctor or dentist appointments, Students having or suspected of having a communicable disease or infestation that can be transmitted are to be excluded from school and are not allowed to return to school until they no longer present a health hazard (Florida Statute 1003.22) Examples are fleas, head lice, ringworm, impetigo and scabies. Students are allowed a maximum of three (3) days excused absence for an infestation of head lice.

Reporting to School for Absences: A student who has been absent from school shall bring a note from parent/legal guardian within forty-eight (48) hours of returning to school stating the cause of the absence. Failure to bring a note will result in an automatic unexcused absence. However, the fact that the student brings in a note does not require the school administration to excuse the absence.

Tardiness

Tardiness is disruptive to the learning environment and can have a negative impact on student achievement. Excessive tardiness (more than 1 time per week) will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Disciplinary action for unexcused tardiness shall be progressive, may include Level 1 consequences, and will be specifically defined in each individual school's discipline plan.

Please refer to the St. Johns County Schools Student Code of Conduct for more details. You can view the Student Code of Conduct on the St. Johns County School website at www.stjohns.k12.fl.us in the "For Parents & Students" tab.

I have read and understand this attendance policy:

Student's Name _____ Grade ____ Teacher _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ School Year _____