

TRUANCY AND CLASS CUTS

Truancy

Students will be subjected to the school district's response for unexcused absences that account toward truancy during the school year as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6 (a4 and Regulation 5200).

Unexcused absences from school or from classes within the school day may subject a student to disciplinary action as well as consequences that may include the denial of a student's participation in co-curricular activities and/or athletic competition. Repeated absences from school interfere with efforts of the Board and its staff in the maintenance of good order and the continuity of classroom instruction and such absences may result in the denial of course credit and/or the removal of the student from the class or course of study.

Truancy is ten or more cumulative unexcused student absences that count toward truancy of a student between the ages of six and sixteen as determined by the Board's Attendance Policy and Regulations pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a) 4.iii. A student will be marked truant if he/she is absent from school (full day or a portion of school day) without his/her parent/guardian verifying the absence for the Attendance Office. A student truant from school will be issued a class cut for each class. Truancy may result in out-of-school suspension as determined by the Principal, Vice-Principal, Supervisor of Students and/or hearing before the Superintendent of Schools.

The school district's responses to unexcused absences counting toward truancy for up to four, between five and nine and ultimately ten days of truancy are outlined in Regulation 5200.

Verified absences not counting toward truancy are listed on page 12 of this student handbook.

Class Cuts

Class cuts are unexcused absences which count toward truancy.

Consequences for Cutting

1. Teachers will hold a student conference and/or contact the student's parents/guardians.
2. Teachers will complete a cut form and submit it to the Vice Principal or Supervisor of Students; 20 points will be issued which results in 3 central detentions (see pages 40-41).
3. Copies of the form will be distributed/mailed to the teacher, school counselor, case manager (if applicable), and parents/guardians.
4. The student will receive a zero on any graded assignments/assessments/projects missed due to the class cut.

5. The absence will count toward the maximum absence limits.
6. Students who cut a total of three or more times cumulatively across all classes within the current school year will be referred to the Student Services Group and may be issued an out-of-school suspension.
7. If a third cut occurs in the same class, the student will be removed from the course without credit and assigned elsewhere as per administrative directive. The student will receive a Withdrawal Cut Fail (WF).
8. If a student is withdrawn due to class cuts, they must take the course as “new” during the summer or repeat it entirely the following year. Summer review courses will not fulfill the required number of credit hours.

In lieu of and/or in addition to detention, learning packets related to truancy and/or class cuts may be assigned at the discretion of the Vice Principal or Supervisor of Students.