

Roseville Area School Attendance Procedures

Regular school attendance by students is linked to school success and academic achievement. School attendance is mandatory in Minnesota, and parents and school officials have the duty to see that a child attends school (see MN Statute 127.20 and 127.19- Compulsory Attendance Law). Students are expected to be in school every day on time. We wish to work with parents and guardians so that their children have consistent attendance.

According to Minnesota law, a student with three or more days of unexcused absences, excessive number of absences, and chronic tardies are defined as educational neglect if the student is under 12 years old, and defined as truancy if the student is 12 years or older.

Families are expected to contact the school to report a student's reason for absence or tardiness because unverified absences are unexcused. (Unverified means the school did not receive a call or note explaining the absence). The school administrator has the right to determine the validity of the excuse.

Some acceptable reasons (excused) for being absent or tardy are:

1. Illness
2. Doctor's visit or mental health appointment
3. Religious holiday
4. Extreme family emergencies (such as death in the family, house fire, etc.)

Some unacceptable reasons (unexcused) for being absent or tardy are:

1. Staying home to baby-sit
2. Oversleeping
3. Missed the bus
4. Cold weather
5. A child is needed at home

Roseville Area Schools has successfully worked with the Ramsey County Truancy Intervention Program (TIP) to improve student attendance. Initially the school works directly with each family on improving attendance by either calling or writing a letter to the parent / guardian, or trying various school based interventions. If improvements are not made, a referral is made to TIP and a meeting is held with the parents, selected school staff, and the county attorney. The goal is to improve school attendance and help your child be successful in school.

If you have any questions regarding your child's school attendance or the Ramsey County Truancy Intervention Program, please feel free to call your school administrator or attendance office.