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**School Begins at 7:55 am**  
**School Ends at 2:30 pm**

## 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 sign 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".

### SAMPLES OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

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

### SAMPLES OF UN-EXCUSED 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