

9.1 Attendance/Truancy Policy

All children of legal school age residing within the confines of the Cache County School District shall be required to be in regular school attendance in accordance with the compulsory attendance laws of the State of Utah.

Regular student attendance is an integral part of the school program. Frequent absences of students from regular classroom learning experiences disrupt the continuity of the instructional process. As such, parents/legal guardians and students should accept responsibility and accountability for attendance.

Each school has established guidelines for the implementation of the philosophy concerning the relationship between school instruction and students' attendance. These guidelines reflect these important points:

- The entire process of education requires regularity of instruction
- The goal of achieving maximum educational benefits requires regular attendance, classroom participation and study
- It is reasonable to require class participation in evaluating student progress
- Regular interaction of students with each other in the classroom and student participation in well-planned instructional activity under the direction of a competent teacher are essential to the learning experience
- Utah law requires parent/legal guardians to ensure the attendance of their children in school
- It is reasonable to expect school administrators to encourage a parent/legal guardian to comply with Utah attendance laws to ensure regular student attendance and punctuality

Should attendance problems occur, reasonable efforts will be made to resolve the student's attendance problem. These efforts will include:

- Counseling of the student by school authorities
- Continued monitoring of the student's attendance
- A written request for parental support in securing regular attendance by the student delivered by certified mail, containing notice of the requirements of the Utah compulsory attendance laws and stating that refusal to respond to the notice is a class B misdemeanor
- At least one meeting with the minor and the parent/legal guardian
- Any necessary adjustment to the curriculum and schedule to meet special needs of the student

In the event that the student's attendance problem cannot be resolved by the above efforts, the school district shall refer the student to the juvenile court as a habitual truant.