

“Every Student Matters... Every Moment Counts!”

The following handbook changes show our commitment to the Districts Motto.

Attendance/punctuality, being prepared, not being a disruption to learning, and being respectful are areas we feel are essential to for learning for all at all times.

Please note the following handbook changes:

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance in school is required by state law. Section 731 of the Michigan General School Law reads, “every parent, guardian or other person in the state of Michigan having control and charge of any child between the ages of six and sixteen years of age shall be required to send such a child to the public schools during the entire school year, and such attendance shall be continuous and consecutive for the school year fixed by the district in which such a child is enrolled.”

Regular student attendance at school will increase the student’s academic, social, and emotional development. Parents have the ultimate responsibility for their child’s attendance. Therefore, it is the school’s responsibility to make sure students are present and to report those students who are not in school to the proper authorities.

TRUANCY POLICY:

- After a child has accumulated 8 absences a letter of attendance warning will be sent home
- After the 12th absence occurs, the school will send a letter home to the family and a meeting with the principal is required
- If the student accumulates 16 absences, the school will contact the Van Buren Truancy Officer.

ABSENCES & TRUANCY

Parents are requested to call their child’s school by 9:00 a.m. Voicemail is available if you would like to notify us the night before of your child’s absence. If no contact has been made; parents must send a note with the student upon his/her return to school. Only the following reasons will be recognized as excused absences and not counted towards the Truancy policy:

1. Family funeral
2. Medical or dental appointments
3. Presence required at court
4. Suspension
5. Religious observances
6. Other emergency situations approved by administration

Absences for reasons other than those listed above are generally considered unexcused. Parental failure to send a medical excuse note or other necessary documentation within one school day results in an unexcused absence and may be treated as a possible truancy. Truancy may result in charges being filed with Juvenile Court.