

Attention Parents and Students

Changes to Attendance and Absences in the State of Ohio

This is a notice from Upper Valley Career Center (UVCC) as a result of House Bill 410 being signed into law.

Regular school attendance is an important ingredient in students' academic success. Excessive absences interfere with students' progress in mastering knowledge and skills necessary to graduate from high school as well as being prepared for higher education and the workforce. To support academic success for all students, the district will partner with students and their families to identify and reduce barriers to regular school attendance.

UVCC will utilize a continuum of strategies to reduce student absence including, but not limited to:

- Notification of student absence to the parent or guardian;
- Development and implementation of an absence intervention plan, which may include supportive services for students and families;
- Counseling;
- Parent education and parenting programs;
- Mediation;
- Intervention programs available through juvenile authorities; and
- Referral for truancy, if applicable.

DEFINITION OF TRUANCY AND EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

The definition of "**Excessive**" Absences reads:

- A. Absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse**
- B. Absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse**

The new definition of "**Habitual Truant**" is:

- A. Absent 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse**
- B. Absent 42 or more hours in one school month without a legitimate excuse**
- C. Absent 72 or more hours in one school year without a legitimate excuse**

***Students with 18 or more unexcused hours from school will receive a written notification.**

***Students meeting the definition of "Excessive Absence" will receive a written notification.**

***Students meeting the definition of "Habitual Truant" will receive written notification and a scheduled time to meet with an intervention team to devise an attendance plan.**