



The School District of Haverford Township

The Board requires that school-aged pupils enrolled in District schools attend school regularly in accordance with state laws. The educational program offered by the District is predicated upon the presence of the pupil and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. Please refer to School Board Policy 204 for more information.

The mission of the School District of Haverford Township is to educate and to inspire a community of lifelong learners.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Principal

Mr. Daniel Horan x5550

Assistant Principals

Mr. Matthew Crater x5561 - 6th Grade

Mr. Randy Taylor x5571 - 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

Guidance Office

Rieki White x5562

Lindsey Hughes/Jacki Gualtieri x5572

Colleen Malczynski x5582

Kevin Murphy x5060

School Social Worker/Home
& School Visitor

Mrs. Jocelyn Drucis x5552

Haverford Middle School

1701 Darby Road
Havertown, PA 19083
610-853-5900 ext. 5000

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Attendance and Lateness

The Pennsylvania Department of Education has established that the compulsory school age for a non-working student is until the age of seventeen or graduation from high school. It is mandatory for all children of compulsory school age, (8-17) having a legal residence in Pennsylvania, to attend school.

The School Board considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school: illness, danger to health from serious exposure, quarantine, recovery from an accident, death of a family member, medical or dentist appointment when necessary, authorized school activities, pre-approved educational travel (limit to 5 days per year), pre-approved college visits (limit to 2 days per year), pre-approved religious instruction (limit to 36 hours per year), and observance of the student’s religion.

For a complete list of conditions that constitute a cause for absence from school please visit our Pupil Services web site at <https://www.haverford.k12.pa.us>

Unexcused Absences

When a child has three unexcused absences they will be considered truant. The First Warning of Truancy letter will be sent to the parents to make them aware that their child has been truant and also to serve as a warning that, if the truancy continues, the School District may refer the case to District Court in Havertown. If a student accumulates additional unexcused absences then an Attendance Improvement Conference must be held. Once a child has accumulated six or more unexcused absences they are considered habitually truant are subject to state truancy regulations and penalties.

Parents and students can be referred to the District Judge via a Citation for Truancy.

Absence Notes

Upon the student's return from an absence, a note explaining the reason for the absence should be presented to their advisory or homeroom teacher.

If a note from a parent is not received within three (3) school days of the absence, the absence will remain unexcused.

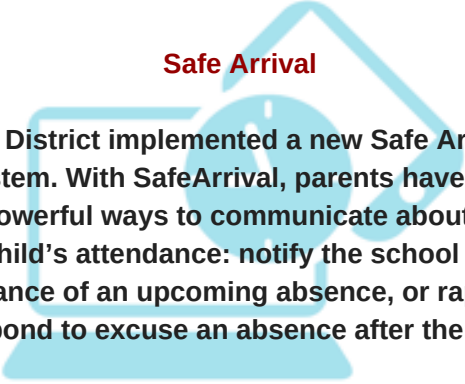
All illness related absences beyond ten cumulative days require an excuse from a physician.

Daily Attendance expectations for Middle School

Students are expected to be in homeroom by 7:50 am. The academic day ends at 2:35 pm.

Students who are late to school must report to the main office to check in.

Students must attend, be prepared and be on time for all of their assigned classes.



Safe Arrival

The District implemented a new Safe Arrival System. With Safe Arrival, parents have two powerful ways to communicate about a child’s attendance: notify the school in advance of an upcoming absence, or rapidly respond to excuse an absence after the fact.

What Can Parents Do

Parents can encourage good attendance in school by establishing daily routines; going to bed on time and getting up on time, removing stimulating or distracting items from the child’s bedroom: cell phone, TV, computers, and video games.

Listen to your child. What is preventing your child from attending consistently?

If your child is reporting an ongoing physical concern, a physical examination with your child’s physician may be helpful in understanding what may be interfering with your child’s attendance.

Parents can seek help and advice through professional counselors in the community.

Parents can contact the child’s teachers in school and monitor their child’s progress at school on Power School via the internet.

Parents are encouraged to ask for consultations with School Counselors and Home and School Visitors. These supportive professionals can meet with you and your child and help you and your child and help you create an action plan to eliminate truancy.

Court Hearings

The District Judge will assign a time and date for the truancy hearing. The student and their parents or legal guardian must attend. A representative of the school district will also attend. At that time, the judge will review the case and decide how to proceed. Penalties for truancy vary but can include community service, fines, loss of driving privileges, required completion of a course or program designed to improve school attendance or jail time.