

Attendance Expectations

The school board believes that regular school attendance is directly related to success in academic work, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers and students, and establishes regular habits of dependability important to the future of the student.

For further information and details regarding attendance, please refer to **School Board Policy 503**.

Call the Attendance Line to be excused from school: 507-494-1500.

Before and After School

Students may come to school and be seated in the ***Concourse as early as 6:00 AM. Parents/Guardians must understand that there is no supervision before 8:45 AM.*** Students are to be seated in the Concourse only. If anything should occur during this time, it is on the parents' liability.

Students may stay in the building after school as long as they participate in a supervised activity. ***No students are allowed in the building after 4 PM without an assigned supervisor.***

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 7 days of schools each year to stay engaged, successful, and on track for graduation.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of 3 signs that a student may drop off.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than test scores.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two of school every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate and keep a job.

A telephone call from a parent or guardian must be made to the office each day a student is absent. Parents may call the attendance office at 507-494-1500 twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. **Written excuses will be accepted. Students will have two days (2) to resolve absences after returning to school. Absences not resolved will remain unexcused if they are not resolved in that two day window.**

Medical and dental appointments should be made after school if at all possible. All make-up work must be completed, after meeting with the teacher and in a reasonable length of time. **This is the responsibility of the student.**

It is the student's responsibility to resolve an absence before school, between class periods, during lunch, or after school. Class time should not be used by students to resolve absences.

Students that are involved in co-curricular activities need to notify each of their teachers when they need to be gone from class for school-related activities. Assignments should be obtained and students shall keep caught up with their classes.

Parents or guardians can excuse a student's absence up to 12 times per school year while school is in session. Subsequent clearance for illnesses require verification by a valid health care professional or administrative approval. Student attendance will be monitored to detect patterns of excessive excused absences so that appropriate intervention action takes place.

Any student who wishes to leave the school during school hours must have parental permission and receive a pass from the main office or the health office (in case of illness).

If a student has an unexcused absence, he/she will be given missed work (upon request); however, the teacher is under no obligation to accept or evaluate the work.

Number of Unexcused absence	School's Response
3	School Official to contact parent(s) by phone or letter
5	The attendance personnel will refer students to the Winona County Restorative Justice Program as an attempt to intervene early on the truancy cycle with the goal of determining the cause(s) behind the attendance issues.
7	The Attendance Personnel may will file truancy charges against the parent/guardian and juvenile

Examples of Excused Absences: illness, death or funeral of immediate family, impassable roads or weather making travel unsafe, recognized religious holidays or observances, court related appearance, medical or dental treatment, five days of vacation with prior written approval.

Examples of Unexcused Absences: oversleeping, work, cold weather, missing the bus, visiting relatives or friends, too tired, helping at home, shopping.