

## Truancy

If a student is absent without an excuse signed by the parent/guardian or if the student leaves school or a class without permission of the teacher or administrator in charge, the student shall be considered truant. An "habitual truant" shall be defined as a student of compulsory attendance age who has four unexcused absences from school in any one month or 10 unexcused absences during any school year. Absences due to suspension or expulsion shall not be counted in the total of unexcused absences for purposes of defining a student as an "habitual truant."

In order to reduce the incidents of truancy, parents/guardians of all students shall be notified in writing at the beginning of each school year of their obligation to ensure that all children of compulsory attendance age attend school. Parents/guardians shall be required to acknowledge in writing awareness of their obligations and to furnish the school with a telephone number or other means of contacting them during the school day.

The school shall establish a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences. When a student fails to report on a regularly scheduled school day and school personnel have received no indication that the parent/guardian is aware of the absence, school personnel or volunteers under the direction of school personnel shall make a reasonable effort to notify the parent/guardian by telephone.

A plan shall be developed for a student who is at risk of being declared habitually truant with the goal of assisting the child to remain in school. When practicable, the student's parent, guardian or legal custodian shall participate with district personnel during the development of the plan. Appropriate school personnel shall make reasonable efforts to meet with the parent, guardian or legal custodian to review and evaluate the reasons for the student's truancy.

In accordance with law, the district may impose appropriate penalties that relate directly to classes missed while truant.

The administration shall develop regulations to implement appropriate penalties for truancy.

Adopted: November 23, 1993  
Revised: August 1994  
Revised: November 26, 1996  
Revised: November 27, 2007  
Revised: August 28, 2012

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-14-101 *et seq.* (dropout prevention and student re-engagement)  
C.R.S. 22-33-104 (compulsory school attendance)  
C.R.S. 22-33-105 (suspension/expulsion)  
C.R.S. 22-33-107 (enforcement of compulsory school attendance)  
1 CCR 301-67, Rule 2.01 (7) (definition of “dropout” student)  
1 CCR 301-78 Rules 1.00 *et seq.* (standardized calculation for counting student attendance and truancy)

CROSS REFS.: IHBG, Home Schooling  
JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages  
JFC, Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts  
JH, Student Absences and Excuses

Garfield School District No. Re-2, Rifle, Colorado