

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #097
POLICY**

CODE: C 7

**1ST READING: 11/03/2025
2ND READING: 12/01/2025
ADOPTED: 12/01/2025**

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Policy

It is the policy of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to set high expectations for consistent student school attendance in accordance with Vermont law in order to facilitate and enhance student learning. Legal pupils between the ages of 6 and 16 and who are residents of the school district and non-resident pupils who enroll in school district schools are required to attend school for the full number of days that school is held unless they are excused from attendance as provided in state law. Students who are over the age of 16 are required to attend school continually for the full number of the school days for which they are enrolled, unless they are mentally or physically unable to continue, or are excused by the superintendent in writing.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, “truant” shall mean:

- 1) A student between the ages of six and sixteen years, who is not excused from school attendance and fails to enter school at the beginning of the academic year or, being enrolled, fails to attend school.

or,

- 2) A student who is at least 16 years of age and is enrolled in public school and fails to attend, and is not excused from school attendance.

A student may be excused from compulsory attendance if the student:

- 1) Is mentally or physically unable to attend;
- 2) Has completed the tenth grade and is not enrolled in public school;
- 3) Is excused by the superintendent or a majority of the school directors; or
- 4) Is enrolled in and attending a postsecondary school which is approved or accredited in Vermont or another state.

Implementation

Annually, the superintendent shall ensure that the school board appoints one or more individuals to serve as the truant officer, and shall ensure that appointment is recorded with the clerk of the school district on or before July 3.

Administrative Rules and Procedures

The superintendent shall develop administrative rules and procedures to ensure the implementation of this policy. The procedures will address the following issues:

- A. written excuses;
- B. tardiness;
- C. notification of parents/guardian;

- D. signing out of school;
- E. excessive absenteeism;
- F. homebound and hospitalized students;
- G. early dismissals;
- H. homework assignments; and
- I. making up work

The procedure may address other issues as well, including educational neglect.

Administrative Responsibilities

1. The principal is responsible for maintaining accurate and up-to-date records of student attendance.
2. The principal is responsible for assuring that the school has the appropriate family information that allows the school to contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) of all students whenever necessary.