



Charleroi Elementary Center Attendance Expectations

Excuses must be submitted immediately upon return to school. Students have three (3) days upon return to provide a written excuse from a parent/guardian or doctor for an absence or tardy. After three (3) days without written documentation, the absence will be considered unexcused. Six (6) or more unexcused absences can result in a citation through the magistrate's office.

Tardies/Early Dismissals/Half Day Absences:

- Students are considered tardy if they arrive at homeroom after 9:00.
- A parent/guardian must notify the greeter of an early dismissal in writing, by email (devonpowell@charleroisd.org) or by phone (724-483-3509 ext 2281).
- A half day absence is defined as staying in school until 12:00 or arriving at 12:00.

Unexcused Absences:

- 3 unexcused absences - The parent/guardian will be notified in writing and a referral to a truancy intervention program will be made.
- 6 unexcused absences - The attendance officer will conduct an attendance improvement meeting with the parent/guardian.
- 6 unexcused absences and any subsequent unexcused days - The parent/guardian will be referred to the magistrate for violation of compulsory school attendance and a citation will be filed.
- 10 unexcused absences - The student will be referred to Washington County Children and Youth.

Cumulative Absences (excused and unexcused, excluding medical):

- 5 cumulative absences - Parents will be notified in writing of the absences.
- 10 cumulative absences - Parents will be notified in writing of the excessive absences. Only a medical excuse will be accepted for absences.

The PA Department of Education considers a child chronically absent from school once they reach 18 total absences. Please make every effort to stay under 18 days.

Research indicates there is a positive and statistically significant relationship between student attendance and academic achievement and other student outcomes (Hein et al., 2013; Chang and Romero, 2008; Allensworth et al., 2014; Balfanz et al., 2007).

Additionally, no student vacation or field trip will be approved if the days missed exceeds the allowable number of parent excuses. This will also apply to vacation requests during PSSA testing, as the state expects every child to participate in the exams.