

ABSENCES AND ATTENDANCE

330-364-7147

Regular attendance is essential to success in school since discussions and work done in class can never be fully recovered. Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all Dover High School students. When in attendance, students are expected to be in all classes and study halls. Attendance and promptness to school is the responsibility of each student and his/her parent/guardian.

The Ohio Department of Education has a definitely stated policy regarding absences from school (3321.04 RC). In brief, the policy is as follows:

Absences from school for any reason other than those listed below and recommended by the State Department of Education are not acceptable and will carry disadvantages to the student. Those reasons acceptable by the State of Ohio and Dover High School are:

1. Personal illness (may require medical documentation)
2. Illness in the immediate family (requiring doctor's orders or parent need that the student remain at home)
3. Medical, Dental, or Legal appointments (requires verification note on the provider's stationery upon return to school). Notes not on stationery may be verified prior to excusing the absence.
4. Death of a relative
5. Religious holidays (a student may be excused for the purpose of observing a religious holiday, provided it is required by his religion. If observance of such holiday requires only attendance at a religious service, the student should attend such service before or after school, if possible)
6. Other emergencies or circumstances that constitute good and sufficient cause as determined by the school administration.

Examples of unexcused absences include but are not limited to: employment, oversleeping, missing the bus, car trouble of any kind, running non-emergency errands, shopping, out-of-school suspension

Absentee Reporting: Parents are responsible for informing the school of his/her child's absence and reason for the absence between 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. on the day of the absence. The attendance office phone number is **330-364-7147**. A written excuse is required when the student returns to school. Notes from home that include the dates missed and a parent signature are required to excuse an absence, and are to be taken to the concession stand located in the gym lobby prior to the start of first period.

With the exception of Pre-Approved Absences, students will have the same number of days missed to complete assignments/tests missed due to an absence. Example: If a student misses 2 school days, the student must complete all missing work on the third school day back to school. **It is the student's responsibility to meet with all their teachers to secure missing assignments and re-schedule missed quizzes and tests.**

Excessive Absences

1. Absences of 38 or more hours in one school month or 65 or more hours in a school year will result in parent notification and implementation of an intervention strategy per Board policy and requirements of Ohio House Bill 410 (2016).
2. A "habitual truant" is any child of compulsory school age who is absent without a legitimate excuse for 30 or more consecutive hours, 42 or more hours in one month, or 72 hours in a school year. A letter will be send to parents at this time warning of the legal consequences of being a "habitual truant." Students are required to attend school immediately, and the school will develop an intervention strategy for the student and family.

3. As part of early intervention and to promote attendance that maximizes a child's success in the classroom, principals or attendance officers will send letters to parents of students for whom regular attendance is a concern.