

1 **Board Policies**

**Blair-Taylor School District**

2  
3 **Series: 400**  
4 **Section: 430**  
5 **Policy #: 431**

**STUDENTS**  
**ATTENDANCE**  
**COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**

6  
7 The attendance laws of the State of Wisconsin will be followed according to Section #118.15 of the State  
8 Statutes.

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10 The parent or legal guardian is responsible for ensuring that the child under his or her custody attends  
11 school on days and times that school is in session until the child turns eighteen.

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13 The student needs to be in the assigned place at the time required, or he or she will be considered tardy.

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15 A child's absence from school may be excused by the parent or guardian for reasons such as student  
16 illness, serious illness of a member of the immediate family, death of a family member, working at home  
17 in an emergency situation, medical or dental appointments, court appearance which requires the  
18 student's attendance. Other absences may be considered excused if approved by the principal.

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20 Absences excused by a parent or guardian beyond 15 per school year may be considered unexcused  
21 unless medical documentation is provided that supports the absences.

22  
23 A child's absence from school may be unexcused for a number of reasons including but not limited to  
24 skipping classes, leaving school grounds without authorization, out of school suspensions, shopping,  
25 picking up prom dress/tux, oversleeping, staying home from school when not meeting the criteria for  
26 being excused, or working unless it is for an approved apprenticeship or work study program. Other  
27 absences may be unexcused if deemed unexcused by the principal.

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29 Truancy is defined by Wisconsin State Statute #118.16 (c) as, "Any absence of part or all of one or more  
30 days from school during which the school attendance officer (principal) has not been notified of the legal  
31 cause of such absence by the parent or guardian of the absent pupil."

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33 "Habitual truancy" means a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse for part or all of  
34 five or more days on which school is held during a school semester or a total of ten or more days in a  
35 school year. (Wisconsin State Statute #118.16 (a))

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37 If communication with the habitually truant student and his or her parents or guardians does not result in  
38 improved attendance, the school will notify the District Attorney. The penalty for habitual truancy may  
39 include a fine and other student sanctions.

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42 **LEGAL REFERENCE:**

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44 **First Reading: 7/8/91**

**Adopted: 7/15/91**  
**Amended: 11/17/97**  
**Reviewed: 6-15-09**  
**Amended: 10-18-15**

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49 **Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_**

