



WALL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

P.O. Box 1199 • 18th Avenue

Wall, NJ 07719

Cheryl Dyer
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please note that the only excused absences from school are for personal illness, death or critical illness of an immediate family member, quarantine, suspension, state-approved religious holidays or legal/court appearances.

Absences from school for vacations, family travel, babysitting or child care, household duties, hunting, etc. are **unexcused** absences. Any **unverified** absences from school are considered unexcused absences.

According to Wall Township Board of Education Policy/Regulation 5200 and N.J.S.A 9:6-1 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11, for **up to four cumulative unexcused absences**, the school will notify you and investigate the cause of each unexcused absence as noted above. In addition, a cooperative action plan shall be developed to address any patterns of unexcused absences and to have the child maintain regular attendance. If a potentially missing or abused child situation is detected, the school shall then cooperate with law enforcement and other authorities as appropriate and in accordance with N.J.S. A. 9:6-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-11.

For between five and nine cumulative unexcused absences, the school shall follow the procedure noted above and will revise the action plan as needed, including all of the following: refer to consult with the building Intervention and Referral Services Team; conduct an evaluation of the student's academic, behavior and health needs; consider an alternate educational placement,; make a referral to a community-based social and health agency; refer to the court program designated by the NJ Administrative Office of the Courts.

For cumulative unexcused absences of ten or more, a student (6-16 years of age) is **truant** according to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-27 and the school **shall make a mandatory referral to the court program required by the NJ Administrative Office of the Courts**; make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent/guardian of the mandatory referral; continue to consult with the family and the involved agencies, law enforcement, and other appropriate authorities and agencies.

According to Wall Township Board Policy 5200, students absent from school for any reason are responsible for the completion of assignments missed because of their absence. Prolonged or repeated absences, excused or unexcused, from school or from class, deprive the student of the

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classroom experience deemed essential to learning and may result in retention at that grade level.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain accurate records and to ensure the appropriate education of all students.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Dyer
Superintendent