Truancy

If a student is absent without an excuse signed by the parent/guardian or if the student leaves school or a class without permission of the teacher or administrator in charge, the student shall be considered truant. An “habitual truant” shall be defined as a student of compulsory attendance age who has four unexcused absences from school or from class in any one month or 10 unexcused absences during any school year. Absences due to suspension or expulsion shall not be counted in the total of unexcused absences.

The school shall establish a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences. When a student fails to report on a regularly scheduled school day and school employees have received no indication that the parent/guardian is aware of the absence, school employees or volunteers under the direction of school employees shall make a reasonable effort to notify the parent/guardian by telephone.

A plan shall be developed for a student who is at risk of being declared habitually truant with the goal of assisting the child to remain in school. When practicable, the child’s parent/guardian or legal custodian shall participate with district employees during the development of the plan. Appropriate school personnel shall make reasonable efforts to meet with the parent/guardian or legal custodian to review and evaluate the reasons for the child’s truancy.

Adopted October 17, 2007 (CASB-Jul)
Revised September 18, 2013

Legal refs.: C.R.S. 22-14-101 et seq. (dropout prevention and student re-engagement)
C.R.S. 22-33-104 (compulsory school attendance)
C.R.S. 22-33-105 (suspension/expulsion)
C.R.S. 22-33-107 (enforcement of compulsory school attendance)
C.R.S. 22-33-108 (judicial proceedings to enforce school attendance laws)
1 CCR 301-78 Rules 1.00 et seq. (standardized calculation for counting student attendance and truancy)

Cross refs.: IHBG, Home Schooling
JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages
JFC, Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts
JH, Student Absences and Excuses