

Thompson School District Attendance Policy

Explanation of Attendance/Truancy Letters

Each month schools run an attendance report for students from the previous month and send home the appropriate attendance letter.

The "1st Attendance Letter" gets sent home if a student has 4 or more absences within one month. This letter is to bring attention to the absences and encourage increased attendance in the future. We request that the bottom portion of the letter acknowledging receipt of the letter be sent back with parent/guardian signature for our attendance records.

The "2nd Attendance Letter" gets sent if a student has missed 7 or more absences in a single trimester. This letter is to notify parents that if attendance does not improve it is possible the district truancy specialist may begin to monitor the situation. We request that parents/guardians return the bottom portion of the letter to acknowledge receipt and set-up an appointment with our principal to discuss their child's attendance.

The "3rd Attendance Letter/Medical Excuse Letter" is given when a student has missed 11 absences before the end of second trimester or 14 absences before the end of the year. This is a serious letter that is given as a last resort for attendance concerns. Colorado State Attendance law states that "every child who has attained the age of 6 and under the age of seventeen years...shall attend public school for at least 968 instructional hours during the school year...". This letter is sent when meeting this requirement is in jeopardy or already in violation.

Due to the requirements set by the state law, kindergarten students do not receive letters as it is 'optional' to attend kindergarten. Teachers are made aware of a kindergartener's attendance and will discuss with parents as they see fit.

An unexcused tardy exceeding 30 minutes will be counted as a half day unexcused absence.

As always you can view your child(ren)'s attendance through parent portal. If you have any concerns regarding your child(ren)'s attendance please contact the front office at 970-613-7500.

Students who are missing due to illness/injury and provide medical documentation are exempt from the attendance policies on the dates that are medically documented. You can always have a doctor's office fax us this documentation at 970-613-7520.

Thank you for your understanding of district policies and state law. We are always here to help your children learn and are available for any concerns a family may have. We appreciate your continued support of our school and the importance of student learning.