



Attendance Policies

Regular attendance for each child is necessary for maximum growth. Therefore, parents and the school should assume the responsibility for regular attendance. State law requires school attendance of a school age child. Regular attendance is essential for success in school. Regular attendance promotes learning and achievement.

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the office when your child is absent and give the reason for your child's absence or the absence will remain unexcused.

Note Regarding Vacations: School administrators may deem absences for family vacations as excused as long as the absences are arranged at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. School administrators have the authority to deem family vacations as unexcused absences if the student already has excessive absences or is making unsatisfactory academic progress.

Note Regarding Absences: Please notify the school office before 10:00 am on any day that your child will not be in attendance.

A doctor's note is requested after a student has been absent for three (3) consecutive days or habitual absences not consecutive but are due to illness. There are two reasons why the school needs to be contacted as early as possible:

1. The home and school need to know quickly if any child left home but did not arrive at school.
2. School district officials are required to know the reason for absences for the State Department of Education attendance accounting procedures.



Truancy Policies

Mohawk Valley School participates in the Yuma County Attorney's Office Truancy Program. This program is designed to monitor those students who have chronic absences or tardiness. When students are tardy, they must report to the office for a late pass. This late pass ensures the student's name will be removed from the daily absentee report.

We are interested in educating all our students and are willing to work with parents/guardians in correcting a child's truancy problem. If other problems are contributing to unexcused absences and/or tardies that we may be able to help with, we welcome the opportunity to work with parents/guardians. Excessive tardies will be treated as absences and will follow truancy policies.

Arizona law requires that a parent or legal guardian must ensure that their minor child between the age of six and sixteen is in school for the full time school is in session, unless otherwise legally excused pursuant to A.R.S. 15-802 or 15-803.

The following are District and School policies regarding absences and tardies:

- The Mohawk Valley District Governing Board Policy JHB regarding truancy states:
 - ~ Unexcused absence for at least five (5) school days within a school year constitutes habitual truancy.
- The Mohawk Valley School "Student Handbook", page 1, under Absences states:
 - ~ Absences greater than eighteen (18) days a year are considered excessive and may result in a need for retention, remediation and/or disciplinary action.



Please note the following suggested school protocol:

1. If the attendance record reflects five (5) unexcused absences, the school may draft a letter advising parents of the absences and will attach the attendance record to the letter.
2. The school may meet with parents/guardians to rectify or clarify any attendance issues. If the five (5) absences are unexcused, the school will utilize a school/family contract agreement form.
3. After the meeting with the school, if the child accrues three (3) or more unexcused absences during the school year, the school may complete a Complaint Referral to the Yuma County Court and submit documentation of the attendance record and the contract with the family.
4. Once referred to the court, the case can be sent to mediation, diversion or to the County Attorney for formal prosecution.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Shanna Johnson, Superintendent/Principal at (928) 785-4942.