ATTENDANCE POLICY - WHS

The philosophy of WHS is that the explanations, clarifications and discussions that take place in the classroom are invaluable components of the school learning experience, and that a natural consequence of being absent from the classroom is reduced academic performance. It follows that a minimum attendance level is required as one of the criteria for graduation. Utah’s Compulsory Education Law states that all school age children must be in attendance at school unless there is a valid and legitimate excuse (Utah Code 53-A-11-101).

Attendance is part of our Citizenship policy. In order to graduate a student must earn a minimum of 28 units of Citizenship Credit to graduate from Wasatch High School. Credit is given for Honor (H), Satisfactory (S), and for Needs Improvement (N). There is no credit given for Unsatisfactory behavior (U) or for Unsatisfactory Attendance (UA).

ATTENDANCE STANDARD

If a student exceeds a combination of 5 absences and/or tardies in any one class within a term, a student will receive a citizenship mark of Unsatisfactory Attendance (UA) for that class unless the student makes up the excess tardies or absences by attending Attendance School. Individual teachers may also incorporate attendance into their individual grading policy as set forth by their disclosure statement. For athletic, school activity and extracurricular eligibility purposes, a student will not have an UA or a U on their transcript and be eligible to participate, play, tryout, or perform.

Students are subject to the teacher’s daily attendance records. If there is a recorded absence or tardy which is in question, the student may, by checking their SIS daily, contact the teacher within one week of the mismatch and bring it to their attention. If there are questions concerning absences, please contact the teacher, then the school attendance office or the school administrator who is in charge of attendance.

504/IEP student accommodations will be handled on an individual basis.

Students who are absent 10 consecutive days will be un-enrolled and have to reregister upon their return, unless prior approval is granted. (Utah Administrative code R277-419. Pupil Accounting)

ATTENDANCE SCHOOL

If a student receives an UA on their report card, the student is required to make up the citizenship time in Attendance School (two hours per sluff (S), one hour per other attendance marks (X), (E), (T), and (Y) beyond 5 marks.)

Attendance School will be held at Wasatch High School on scheduled Saturday mornings from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the commons. The fee to attend Attendance School is $3.00 per hour. Fee waivers are not granted for attendance make-up. Attendance School begins at 6:00 a.m. Students are advised to arrive early as latecomers will not be admitted. In order to attend Attendance School, a student must bring homework or a book to read. No cell phones, music, games, sleeping, or talking will be permitted. Violators will be removed and no credit or refund will be given for attending the make-up session regardless of the time of removal. In addition, no refunds or credit towards future Attendance School sessions will be given.

UAs can only be made up in Attendance School.
EXCUSING ABSENCES
Parents may excuse absences by calling the attendance office at 654-0640 at any time of the day or night and leaving a message. **All calls to excuse absences should include the date of the absence, time of the call, and specific class periods missed (if not for the entire day), and a phone number where a parent may be reached. Parents are expected to excuse absences within one week of the absence.**

Fraudulent excusing of absences by students will result in school discipline.

TRUANCY
Prior to or no later than school registration, the parents of all students shall be provided written notice from the school or district informing them of compulsory education attendance laws and encouraging parental cooperation. Habitual truancies will be addressed in the following way:

- When a student misses class, the school will call home by phone call notifying parents of the student’s absence.
- If a student continues to miss class, the school will send a letter to parents notifying them of the importance of school attendance and the legal implication of truancy. Documentation of the date, time, and method of communication shall be kept. Every effort to meet with the student will be made.
- Continued absence will result in referral to Juvenile Court.