

Immanuel Lutheran School

## **TRUANCY**

### **Definitions**

Truancy is declared when a student is absent from school without valid authorization, valid excuse or without parental consent. Leaving school during the school day, without the approval of the principal, is also treated as truancy. A pattern of truancy will be subject to interventions determined by the administration of the school, possibly including reports to the County Truancy Officer, local law enforcement personnel, and the Regional Office of Education.

Excused absences include:

1. Illness (up to three consecutive days without a doctor's note)
2. Observance of a religious holiday
3. Death in the immediate family or family emergency
4. Doctor or dental appointments
5. Planned absences approved by the teacher and principal in advance
6. Emergency or special circumstances at the discretion of the principal,
7. Other situations beyond the control of the student, as determined by the school principal and School Advisory Council
8. Such other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent for the mental, emotional, or physical health or safety of the student.

### **Diagnosis**

ILS will diagnose the causes or reasons for a student's unexcused absences. The school principal and school secretary will do this by:

1. Interviewing the parent/guardian via phone or in-person
2. Interviewing the student via phone or in-person
3. Interviewing school officials who may have information about the student's attendance

### **Interventions**

Interventions, strategies, and supportive services are available to truant or chronically truant students. These services include parent conferences, student counseling, family counseling, and information about existing community services that are available to truant and chronically truant students and relevant to their needs.

These services are typically occur outside of instructional hours.

### **School Code**

Per Section 26-18 of the School Code, Immanuel Lutheran School will collect and review its chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to

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engage chronically absent students and their families to encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success. The review shall include an analysis of chronic absence data from Immanuel Lutheran School's student information system.

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