

STUDENT TARDINESS

Being on time for one's obligations is an essential skill. In a school setting, students who arrive late to class cause a disruption to the learning environment. Therefore, all students are expected to be in their assigned location by the beginning of the school day. The School Committee defines excessive tardiness as more than ten (10) unexcused tardies per school year. All tardiness (even when authorized by parents) is considered unexcused unless the required documentation is provided.

Student tardiness may be excused for the following reasons:

1. Doctor or dentist appointment (with documentation);
2. Illness (with a doctor's note);
3. Bereavement or serious illness in family;
4. Weather so inclement as to endanger the health of the child;
5. For observance of major religious holidays;
6. Legal (with documentation from the court, lawyer etc.); or
7. Other – a student may be excused for other tardiness with approval from the school administrator.

Students who have more than five (5) tardies per five-month semester will require intervention by the school. Interventions may include parent contact, school conferences and disciplinary action. In situations in which tardiness does not improve despite these interventions, one or more of the following actions may be taken by the school:

1. A Failure To Send, Criminal Complaint, against the parent may be sought at Hingham District Court;
2. A 51A for parental neglect may be filed with the Department of Social Services;
3. A CHINS petition may be sought at Hingham District Juvenile Court.

For High School students (in addition to the policy stated above):

Students who miss more than 15 minutes of a class due to tardiness will be considered absent from that class. More than eight (8) absences per semester will lead to loss of half the stated credit for the course.

Students must be in their first period class by 7:40 a.m. and must remain in school for the entire school day in order to participate in or attend any co-curricular activity for that day. An administrator's pre-approval will waive any penalties. Students who spend a class period in the nurse's office will not be eligible to participate or attend any co-curricular or school events that day.

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Hull Public Schools