



ROOTSTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
4140 S.R. 44 :: Rootstown, OH 44272 :: 330.325.9911 :: Fax 330.325.4105
www.rootstown.sparcc.org

Mr. Andrew Hawkins
Superintendent

"The Standard Is Excellence"

Ms. Connie Baldwin
Treasurer

September 1, 2017

To: Rootstown Parents/Guardians
From: Andrew Hawkins *AH*
Re: Student Absences

Recently, the Ohio State Legislature made changes to Ohio's school attendance laws with the passage of House Bill 410. The following information will provide you with the attendance changes that have been made and how these changes will affect you and your child.

First, the new law requires the school to record student absences by the hour. Previously, schools recorded absences by half day or full day. Second, the new law requires the school to send a letter to the parent/guardian when a student misses 38 hours in a month or 65 hours in a year with or without a legitimate excuse. Furthermore, any student who misses 30 consecutive hours, 42 hours in a month, or 72 hours in a school year without a legitimate excuse is considered habitually truant and is referred to an Absence Intervention Team who will develop a plan to improve the child's attendance habits. Failure to follow this plan will result in charges being filed with the truancy court. Finally, any amount of time a student is not in school, such as doctor appointments and tardies to school, will be included towards the hour totals previously mentioned.

Please contact your building principal or me if you have any questions regarding the changes to the recording and monitoring of student absences.