

DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Danbury, Connecticut

POLICY

TRUANCY – CLASS

Adopted: 5/10/2000

Policy No. 7-232

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DEFINITION

1. “Class Truancy” means the unexcused absence from any class or activity for which a student has been scheduled during any day on which they have been recorded as present at school.
2. “Instances of Class Truancy” means unexcused absence from class or scheduled activity for anyone such class or activity.
3. “Disciplinary Action” means action which may include, but is not limited to detention, loss of privileges, in-school suspension or suspension. Loss of privileges may include the privilege to participate in school sponsored extra-curricular activities. Any loss of privilege may not be for a period exceeding 5 school days.
4. “Conference” means a meeting between the student and one or more members of the school staff, the result of which is reported in writing to the principal. The students shall be told of the charges and evidence against them and given an opportunity to present their side of the case.

PROCEDURE

1. A referral to the administration may be initiated by any staff member in response to instances of class truancy.
2. Disciplinary action other than suspension may be initiated in response to any instance of class truancy. Such action shall only be taken as a result of a conference.
3. In any 20 school day period after two instances of class truancy which have resulted in a conference, the third such instance and each instance thereafter may be considered grounds for suspension of a student from school as provided in Board of Education Policy 7-230.
4. Any suspension for class truancy must be made pursuant to the procedures described in Board of Education Policy 7-230.

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5. At any point during the disciplinary procedures it shall be a defense if the student shows that the absence upon which the suspension is based should have been excused pursuant to Policy 7-101.
6. Prior to the initiation of suspension procedures, the following steps shall be taken:
 - A. Immediately after the second instance of class truancy which has resulted in a conference, the school principal shall give the student and their parent or guardian written notice that a third instance of class truancy may result in suspension.
 - B. The administrator must request the counselor to make a study of the student to determine whether there exists extenuating circumstances which may be contributing to class truancy. The counselor will make their findings known to the principal and may make recommendations for further action.
7. No loss of course credit nor other academic penalty will be imposed as a result of suspension, providing the student makes up missed class course work.