



LORDSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

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HOME OF THE RED DEVILS!

New Attendance Laws

The Lordstown Local Schools believe that good attendance is critical for students to achieve at their highest levels and establish positive life-long habits. We appreciate parental support and the commitment from students to be in on time and be present every day.

There have been recent changes in Ohio Law (HB 410) that parents need to be aware of.

HB 410 (Truancy Bill) Summary:

There are two levels of absence concerns: "Excessive absences" and "Habitual truancy". Absences will be documented in hours, not just days; so tardiness is also a factor.

Students will fall into the "Excessive" category when they miss 38 hours in a month (**approx. 6 days**) or 65 hours for the year (**approx. 11 days**). This **includes excused absences**. Exceptions are allowed for severe illness with medical documentation, hospital stays, or extenuating circumstances.

Students are now declared a "habitual truant" if they miss 5 or more consecutive days, 7 days in a month, or 12 days in a year (**UNEXCUSED days**). This equates to 30, 42, 72 hours. While schools do not suspend or expel students *solely* on the basis of unexcused absences, students who exceed these limits will be placed on a plan with an Attendance Intervention Team (AIT) that parents will be expected to take part in to cooperatively find ways to get and keep students in school. The plan will be monitored for 2 months. If no improvement is made in attendance, the school is required to file a complaint with Juvenile Court.

We expect and anticipate good attendance from all Lordstown students. However, for the few that do fall into the above categories, it is important that parents understand the procedures and policies involved in correcting poor attendance and tardiness.

RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, PRIDE