

Legal sanctions will be used to promote compliance with the law by parent/guardian and students. Unless exempt by statute, parents/guardians have a legal duty to cause their children to attend school each day it is in session.

Failure to comply with the law may result in prosecution of the parent/guardian and ...

- **Fines of up to \$500 per day of violation**
- **Up to 15 days in jail**
- **Restitution to the school district for loss of daily revenue**



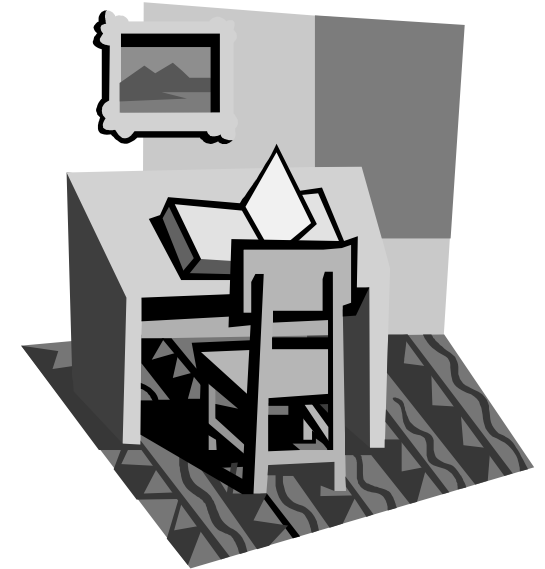
“One of the most effective ways to reduce crimes committed by youthful offenders is to fight educational neglect and truancy. Education is the best weapon we have against crime and poverty.”

— Dan White

Dan White
Clay County Prosecutor
11 S. Water Street
Liberty, Missouri 64068
(816) 736-8300

Contact your school to address attendance problems

Compulsory Education Is The Law



EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT

... is indicated if the parent/guardian condones, causes or allows a student to be absent from school without justification. Inaction or failure by a parent or guardian to cooperate with school staff efforts to correct an attendance problem may indicate such neglect.



Missouri Revised Statutes – Chapter 167 defines conditions for compulsory school attendance, home school requirements, and penalties for violating compulsory education law. The parent/guardian is clearly responsible for their child's enrollment and attendance in an educational program.

Legitimate absences from school must be reported by the parent/guardian in compliance with policy of the school district.

TRUANCY

...is indicated if the student, by willful misconduct, disregards the corrective efforts of the parent/guardian and school staff by continuing to be absent without justification. In such instances, the student may be referred to the Juvenile Office for investigation and sanctions.

The Clay County
Prosecuting Attorney,
Clay County Division of
Family Services, Clay
County Family Court
Juvenile Office,
Law Enforcement and your
school district work
together to address reports
of violations of Missouri
Compulsory Education
Law.