

Attendance Matters

Pennsylvania's New Truancy Law What Does it Mean for My Family?

- ◆ Students who are absent from school must turn in a written note/excuse, explaining each absence and signed by a parent/guardian, within three days of returning to school—otherwise the absences will be considered unexcused. Refer to Bear Creek Community Charter School's Student/Parent Handbook regarding what is considered a legal absence.
- ◆ Students who accrue three (3) unexcused absences in a school year are considered **Truant**. Bear Creek Community Charter School will notify the family with a letter in the U.S. Mail with a copy being sent home with the student. Consequences for additional unexcused absences will be outlined in the letter and families will be offered to participate in School Attendance Improvement Conference.
- ◆ Students who accrue six (6) unexcused absences in a school year are considered **Habitually Truant**. Bear Creek Community Charter School will notify the family with a letter in the U.S. Mail with a copy being sent home with the student, and we will contact parents/guardians by telephone. Parents will be invited to participate in a School Attendance Improvement Conference and a truancy elimination program. If parents/guardians do not participate, Bear Creek Community Charter School is required to file a citation with the local Magisterial Judge.

