

SENIORS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE and THE END OF THE YEAR

Attendance is a critical component of school success. However, after receiving college acceptance letters, many Seniors seem to denigrate the value of on time daily attendance. In addition, there seems to be a growing trend of pre-planned class “skip” days in between athletic season as well as in the weeks before graduation.

Please permit me to provide clarification; there are no sanctioned “Senior Skip Days”. We expect all students to be in school on time everyday attending all scheduled classes. Unauthorized/illegal absences will result in consequences as per truancy violations. Should a substantial number of Seniors – or members of any class – be absent on a given day, failure to provide an acceptable and verifiable medical excuse will result in two (2) Saturday detentions.

Our tantamount concern is the safety of our students. Large numbers of students not in school will often congregate in one place that is unsupervised. The potential inherent dangers need not be enumerated. These unsupervised groups are at risk. A party atmosphere often results, drugs and alcohol often become involved. The consequences can be fatal.

Senior Pranks are also a concern. Not only will we not tolerate them, we will prosecute any criminal mischief/trespassing/vandalism to the fullest extent of the law.

We therefore ask for parental support. Please help us ensure the safety of your children by discussing the value of attendance right through to graduation as well as the implications associated with “skipping school” and Senior Pranks. We can react after the fact but parents can be proactive and prevent tragedies. We respect our partnership with you in keeping our children out of harm’s way.

Thank you.

Paula Cowling