



Attendance

Mooreville Consolidated Schools has partnered with the Morgan County Prosecutor's Office to employ the "Empty Seats Don't Learn" program to properly monitor and encourage high rates of attendance for our schools. This program was initiated at MCSC in January of 2015.

The "Empty Seats Don't Learn" program is based on Indiana State Law which states that every child is to attend school at least 180 days each year, and that no child should miss more than 10 days of instruction in a school year. Parents are held accountable for their children's attendance at school and can be prosecuted if absences are excessive.

At MCSC, our procedures for implementing the program are as follows:

1. A parent or guardian must call the school office each morning a student will be absent and give the reason for the absence. This and **a note is necessary to excuse an absence.**
2. A parent or guardian must provide a signed note stating the date of the absence and the reason for the absence when the student returns to school. A parent note must be received by the school within 3 days of the student's return to school to excuse an absence. A doctor's note must include the date the student was seen and the date the student should return to school. Only the school days between those two dates will be excused unless a separate parent note is included to explain additional days missed for the illness.
3. After 5 and 10 unexcused absences, a letter will be sent to the parent/guardian to inform them of the student's attendance status.
4. After more than 10 unexcused absences or an excessive number of excused absences, parents/guardians will be contacted by the Family Services Coordinator via mail and/or phone.
5. Should unexcused absences continue after meeting/speaking with the Family Services Coordinator, the student's attendance record will be forwarded to the Morgan County Prosecutor's Office for review and determination of further action.

Reminder:

Absences are excused for the following reasons only: illness, doctor appointment, death in the family, or court appearance.

Any absence from school for any other reason (family vacation, hospital visit, etc.) must be prearranged and approved by the school principal to be an excused absence.

Absences as a result of a family emergency will be determined excused or unexcused by the school principal based on the information received from the parent/guardian.