

## Legacy Charter School

### STUDENTS

3050

At Legacy Public Charter School regular attendance and punctuality are a vital part of a student's education. Teachers implement a high level of direct teaching and interactive learning and both students and teachers are held accountable to complete a set of standards and benchmarks. These teaching techniques do not allow students to simply make up concepts missed. Additionally, Legacy's mission is to develop students who will become exceptional employees, and incorporates a school-to-work emphasis in all we do. As attendance and punctuality are essential qualifications for individuals in the workforce, so they will be for those who attend Legacy. In accordance with our charter, Legacy Public Charter School has a 96% attendance standard. Every effort and commitment should be made by students, parents and administration to ensure that students are in attendance and punctual every day. A year-round school calendar is provided well in advance to allow families to schedule activities during breaks. Students are expected to attend classes regularly.

### ELEMENTARY (K-8) ATTENDANCE POLICY

#### TARDY POLICY

All students arriving more than 5 minutes late must be signed in at the office to ensure accurate records and lunch counts. Students arriving more than 5 minutes late need an adult to sign them in at the office. Students leaving and returning during the school day must be signed in and out by an adult.

Each time a student is **tardy three (3) times**, the student will also be treated as having 1 unexcused absence.

#### ABSENCE POLICY

**Excused absences** – The Administration and Governing Board recognize that there are special circumstances when a student may need to participate in another event or activity rather than attend class. An absence will be considered “excused” if the student could not attend class because he/she is ill, or is attending a funeral or wedding of an immediate family member (father, mother, brother, sister or grandparent), and the student's parent/guardian provides reasonable evidence that this was the cause of the absence. However, the cumulative effect of regular class attendance is critical to the learning experience that Legacy Public Charter School offers, which the student misses even when the absence is excused.

**Unexcused absences** are absences due to non-school related activities, unapproved club or family events, trips or vacations, and any absences not reported to the school by a parent/guardian within two school days of the student's return to school.

#### **Sanctions**

A student receiving an unexcused absence will not be eligible to receive Citizen of the Week or Citizen of the Month for the twelve-month period following the date of the absence. Any student in 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade receiving three (3) unexcused absences will have the grade he or she would otherwise receive reduced by one full letter grade. Students who accrue five (5) or more unexcused absences or nine (9) excused and unexcused combined absences in a school year will lose their seat.

## **TRUANCY**

Truancy is defined as a student being absent for all or any part of the school day without the approval of the parent, guardian or school authorities. This includes students who are on the campus, but not in their assigned classroom. Truancies accrue for the entire year.

## **ABSENCE VERIFICATION**

When a student has not arrived by 9:00 a.m., and no contact from a parent has been received, a school representative will attempt to contact parent/guardian. To have an absence excused, a parent/guardian must call or send a signed note stating the reason for the absence upon the student's return to school. A doctor's note is recommended for extended absences due to medical reasons. Three (3) or more consecutive absences may require a note from a physician. If appropriate notification has not been received within 2 days of student's return to school, the absence may be considered an unexcused absence. Parents whose work schedule prevents them from contacting the school during the normal school hours are strongly urged to send a note with the student, leave a phone message after hours, or email the school with an urgent message.

### Policy History:

Adopted on: March 2010

Revised on: April 19, 2012

Revised on: January 17, 2013

Revised on: February 21, 2013

Revised on: May 16, 2013