

Greenfield High School



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August 1, 2016

Dear Parents of Open Enrollment Students,

This letter is intended to inform you of legislation that may impact some of our Greenfield High School (GHS) students who are attending GHS through the open enrollment program. This legislation went into effect during the 2010-2011 school year and pertains to students whose attendance patterns classify them as "Habitual Truants" by the state of Wisconsin as defined in state statute 118.16 (1)(a).

The Wisconsin statute, 118.51, states that if a non-resident school board determines that a pupil attending the non-resident school district under this section is habitually truant during either semester in the current year, the non-resident school board may prohibit the pupil from attending the nonresident school district the succeeding semester or school year.

As per state statute habitual truants are those students who accrue unexcused absences, for all or part of five days in a semester or ten days in a school year. Greenfield High School, as per state statute and municipal ordinance, has a legal responsibility to enforce regular school attendance. Understand that, as per the statute, if your student becomes categorized as a habitual truant their open enrollment status may be terminated.

If you receive notice that your student's enrollment status is being terminated, you do have the ability to appeal the decision to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction within 30 days after receipt of the termination notice. The statute reads that the department shall affirm the school board's decision unless the department finds that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable.

In closing, we are excited about the upcoming school year and appreciate the fact that you have entrusted Greenfield High School with the privilege of educating your student(s). We take this responsibility very seriously and will continue to hold our students and ourselves to the highest educational standards. If you have any questions or concerns related to this notice, please contact us at (414) 281-6200. We are looking forward to a fantastic year!

Sincerely,

Paul Thusius
Principal- Greenfield High School

"Seek first to understand and then to be understood"
Stephen R. Covey

State of Wisconsin



2009 Senate Bill 342

Date of enactment: May 12, 2010
Date of publication*: May 26, 2010

2009 WISCONSIN ACT 304

AN ACT to amend 118.51 (9); and to create 118.51 (1) (am), 118.51 (5) (a) 3. and 118.51 (11) of the statutes; relating to: pupils attending a school district under the Open Enrollment Program who are habitually truant.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 118.51 (1) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

118.51 (1) (am) "Habitual truant" has the meaning given in s. 118.16 (1) (a).

SECTION 2. 118.51 (5) (a) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

118.51 (5) (a) 3. Whether the nonresident school board determined that the pupil was habitually truant from the nonresident school district during any semester of attendance at the nonresident school district in the current or previous school year.

SECTION 3. 118.51 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

118.51 (9) APPEAL OF REJECTION. If the nonresident school board rejects an application under sub. (3) (a) or (7) or the resident school board prohibits a pupil from attending public school in a nonresident school district under sub. (6), (7) or (12) (b) 1., or the nonresident school board prohibits a pupil from attending public school in the nonresident school district under sub. (11), the pupil's parent may appeal the decision to the department within 30 days after the decision. If the nonresident school

board provides notice that the special education or related service is not available under sub. (12) (a), the pupil's parent may appeal the required transfer to the department within 30 days after receipt of the notice. If the resident school board provides notice of transfer under sub. (12) (b) 2., the pupil's parent may appeal the required transfer to the department within 30 days after receipt of the notice. The department shall affirm the school board's decision unless the department finds that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable.

SECTION 4. 118.51 (11) of the statutes is created to read:

118.51 (11) HABITUAL TRUANCY. Notwithstanding subs. (3) (c) and (13), if a nonresident school board determines that a pupil attending the nonresident school district under this section is habitually truant from the nonresident school district during either semester in the current school year, the nonresident school board may prohibit the pupil from attending the nonresident school district under this section in the succeeding semester or school year.

SECTION 5. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to applications to attend and pupils attending a nonresident school district under the open enrollment program in the 2010-11 school year.

*. Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 2007-08: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].