

Unexcused Absences Over 10 Days

Saturday or after school attendance programs are designed for students who have missed in excess of 10 days and have passing grades. **One hour of Saturday service is designed to make-up one class absence (50 minutes).** South Carolina state law gives total authority to school principal to manage and monitor student absences. Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed by the principal on a case-by-case basis. (See the student agenda)

This is new for high schools in the district. For the past 19 years (at least) students passing a class received one day of credit for one hour of Saturday or after school time. Schools across the state handled Saturday school similarly to homebound and homebased instruction (1 hour for 1 day).

We have communicated this change during all grade level meetings the first days of school and printed it in the student agenda. We have also discussed this change with our SBLT, administrator meetings, and with department heads.

We have stressed the importance of attending school by making morning announcements, scheduling an attendance, posting flyers in the halls and on the school website. We have also done attendance a Robo-call.

Please remind students that one hour of service is designed to make-up one class period (50 minutes).

Note: There will be a limit on the number of available hours and it is not free.

Example:

Student 1: 13 unexcused absences in 1st period
 14 unexcused absences in 2nd period
 15 unexcused absences in 7th period

= 12 days over limit of 10 unexcused

The student will have to attend 12 hours of Saturday/After School to make-up for the 12 classes. Note: This only applies to students who are passing the classes.

If you have questions or concerns please contact Carl White: CWhite@acpsd.net