

Regular attendance is a crucial part of success in school. There are consequences when students are continually absent from school. If an elementary student is absent three days within a single school year; or a middle school student is absent from three or more class periods on three days; or a high school student is absent from two or more class periods on three days within a school year without excuse that student is considered a “continuing truant,” according to state law (section 260A.02). The school is required by law to notify a parent when a child is a “continuing truant” and if the child continues to be truant there may be juvenile court proceedings. Once a child is considered a “continuing truant”, parents and guardians are given an opportunity to explain their child’s absences.

When an elementary student is absent seven or more days from school within a single school year; or a secondary student is absent from one or more class periods on seven days within a single school year without excuse, that student is considered a “habitual truant,” according to state law (section 260C.007). Anoka-Hennepin schools refer students to the Anoka County attorney when an elementary student is absent six days within a single school year; or a middle school student is absent from three or more class periods on six days; or a high school student is absent from two or more class periods on six days within a school year without excuse. Anoka-Hennepin schools refer students to the Hennepin county attorney when an elementary student is absent seven days within a single school year; or a middle school student is absent from three or more class periods on seven days; or a high school student is absent from two or more class periods on seven days within a school year without excuse.