



THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL
KRISTIN BERNIER, PRINCIPAL
1 THOMAS AVENUE
THOMASTON, CT 06787
TELEPHONE 860-283-3036

September 5, 2019

Dear Thomaston Center School Families,

We at Thomaston Center School believe that attendance is an integral part of a student's total educational experience and success. We urge you to stress the importance of punctuality and attendance at school as the development of these habits will be invaluable to future academic and career success.

The CT State Department of Education also supports the development of these habits. Therefore, a student's absence from school shall be considered verified if written documentation of the reason for the absence has been submitted within ten school days of the student's return to school or in accordance with Section 10-210 of the Connecticut General Statutes and meets the following criteria:

- A. For absences one through nine, a student's absences from school are considered verified when the student's parent/guardian approves such absence and submits appropriate documentation; and
- B. For the tenth absence and all absences thereafter, a student's absences from school are considered verified for the following reasons:

- Student illness (Note: all student illness absences must be verified by an appropriately licensed medical professional to be deemed verified, regardless of the length of absence. The medical note must be submitted within ten (10) days of the absence);
- Student's observance of a religious holiday;
- Death in the student's family or other emergency beyond the control of the student's family;
- Mandated court appearances (additional documentation required);
- The lack of transportation that is normally provided by a district other than the one the student attends (no Parental documentation is required for this reason); or
- Extraordinary educational opportunities pre-approved by district administrators and in accordance with Connecticut State Department of Education guidance.

The final decision as to whether an absence is verified rests with school administration. Pursuant to Section 10-198b of the 2012 Supplement to the Connecticut General Statute, ALL absences beyond 9 absences will be considered UNVERIFIED unless specific documentation is submitted (such as a doctor's notes). Please refer to the 2019-20 Student-Parent Handbook for further information.

To serve as a reminder about regular attendance, students at Thomaston Center School who acquire six absences, will receive a letter home, regardless of the reason. An additional letter will be sent home if a child acquires nine absences. After the tenth absence, a parent or guardian will be contacted by school personnel and may be invited to a meeting at school to discuss your child's attendance.

We appreciate your support and diligence in helping to shape positive, lifelong habits. Should you have questions regarding this attendance policy, please contact Mrs. Diane Aniki, school nurse, Mrs. Nicole Gowell, school social worker, Mrs. Jaimee Hustek, school counselor, or Mrs. Kristin Bernier, principal.

Sincerely,

Kristin Bernier
Principal
Thomaston Center School