Canton Middle School

60 Penland Street

Canton, NC 28716

Phone (828) 646-3467

One known factor in student success is regular attendance and participation in school. While this seems simple, many students struggle with being at school daily, arriving on time daily, and staying in school a full day. Here are some key points regarding attendance at CMS you should know.

1. North Carolina has a Compulsory Attendance Law, which means that all students must attend school until they turn 16 year of age.
2. Student cannot miss more than 15 days in a school year or 8.4% of the time they are enrolled in Haywood County Schools. Missing more than 15 days will result in student having to make up the time missed in make-up attendance sessions. Missing more than 15 days or the 8.4 % could also result in retention.
3. Your child must be in his/or homeroom each day by 7:55 am. After this time your child will be marked absent and they must report to the front office to receive a tardy pass to be admitted to class. If your child fails to obtain a tardy pass from the office the absence will be updated to a tardy.
4. Upon the child’s return to school after an absence, a note should be accompanied from a parent and/or physician explaining the absence. Any absence that does not fall within the lawful reasons or without a note will be considered unexcused.
5. Absences that are lawful (excused) are related to illness or injury, quarantine, death in the immediate family, medical or dental appointments, religious observances (requires prior notice and approval), court or administrative proceedings, educational trips with family (requires prior principal approval), and deployment activities. Absences for any other reason are considered unlawful (unexcused).
6. Ten or more **unexcused** absences can result in court action-either against the parent or the student and administration may require a physician note for future absences to be excused.
7. A student must be in school half of the instructional day, 11:30 on a regular day, to be counted present for the day.
8. If your child has a chronic medical condition that impacts school attendance, you must speak with the school social worker and school nurse to develop a plan for that child at the beginning of the year or in a timely manner upon development of the medical condition.
9. Students missing time form school are expected to make up all missed class work. It is the **responsibility of the student** to request the missed work form all teachers.
10. Attendance guidelines for dances, athletics, incentives, etc. can be found in your child’s agenda book or on the school website.

A full explanation of all attendance policies can be found in the student handbook and on the Haywood County School website (haywood.k12.nc.us)

**I have read and I understand the attendance requirements for HCS & Canton Middle School.**

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Parent Signature Date

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Student Signature Date