

Overview of Truancy School Curriculum

Truancy School consists of three, two-hour classes which are held during the evening hours at the Jordan Family Education Center (JFEC) @ 2827 W. 13400 S., Riverton. Students are required to attend the classes with a parent/guardian. Truancy School is utilized as an intervention by the Jordan School District prior to referring the student to Juvenile Court for habitual truancy.

Each three-week session focuses on developing additional specific skills to help students be successful in school and other life situations. These skills are derived through a student's personal assessment of his/her own unique challenges. A core reason for truancy problems appears to be an adolescent's attempt to avoid situations in areas where he/she does not have appropriate success skills.

Four main areas are addressed:

- Personal health skills. This area includes getting necessary sleep and having physical/emotional energy related to maintaining school endurance.
- Skills for making behavioral changes by reinforcing possible positive behaviors. The student's behavior is reviewed and reinforcement of positive behavior, attending each class on time every day, is targeted each week for improvement.
- Academic preparation and goal setting skills. Managing time and organization to accomplish a realistic task, being specific and monitoring progress are all parts of this skill area.
- Socially appropriate communication and problem solving skills. This skill area will stress how students can gain real trust by keeping their word when making agreements, using adult communication skills and practicing basic conflict resolution skills.

Additionally, parents may seek other services at the Jordan Family Education Center (JFEC) at the conclusion of the Truancy School Program either through possible short-term counseling or other classes if their immediate needs are not answered.