

SOUTH HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE PHILOSOPHY AND POLICY



School success starts with good attendance - in class and on time. Middle school attendance is an accurate predictor of high school graduation. Good attendance helps our students develop positive relationships, as well as achieve their best academically.

Poor attendance disrupts our classrooms and school. When students are tardy to class, they create a disruption to the learning momentum and classroom environment for other students. When students are truant, they are in places they do not belong and can engage in activities that break trust, disrupt learning, or risk the safety of themselves or others.

To support students with their academic and attendance behaviors and decisions, South Hills Middle School will implement the Attendance Policy outlined below:

TARDY:

- Students must be in their assigned seats when the tardy bell rings. Students who are not in their assigned seat when the tardy bell rings will be marked 'Tardy' (T).
- With every fifteen (15) tardy marks, students must attend a Study Session. Failure to attend a Study Session will result in a day in the Tiger Intervention Room or an out-of-school suspension.
- Tardy marks in any single class will negatively impact the Citizenship Grade for that class. Poor Citizenship Grades will result in restrictions from field trips, assemblies, and the year-end stomp.

WAY LATE:

- Students who arrive to class more than 10 minutes after the bell will be marked with a 'Way Late' (W) on their attendance record.
- With every ten (10) Way Late marks, students must attend a Study Session. Failure to attend a Study Session will result in a day in the Tiger Intervention Class or an out-of-school suspension.
- Way Late marks in any single class will negatively impact the Citizenship Grade for that class. Poor Citizenship Grades will result in restrictions from field trips, assemblies, and the year-end stomp.

TRUANCY:

- Students must be in their assigned class. Students who are not in their assigned class, leave campus without prior excusal, or are more than 20 minutes late to their class will be marked 'Truant' (Z).
- With every three (3) truancy marks, students must attend a Study Session. Failure to attend a Study Session will result in a day in the Tiger Intervention Room or an out-of-school suspension.

- Truancy marks in any single class will negatively impact the Citizenship Grade for that class. Poor Citizenship Grades will result in restrictions from field trips, assemblies, and the year-end stomp.

STUDY SESSION:

- Students with poor attendance marks as outlined above must attend a Study Session.
- Study Sessions will be held:
 - Wednesdays from 3:10 pm to 3:50pm
 - Fridays from 9:10 am to 9:50am
- Study Session expectations:
 - Cell phones must be turned in or kept away
 - Students will not talk or socialize
 - Students must remain in their assigned seats
- Students who choose not to comply with Study Session expectations during their Study Session will be dismissed from the Study Session and assigned to a school day in the Tiger Intervention Room or an out-of-school suspension.

TIGER INTERVENTION ROOM:

- Students who fail to attend a Study Session or continue to accrue Tardy, Way Late, and/or Truancy marks will be assigned to the Tiger Intervention Room (Room 201).
- Tiger Intervention Room expectations:
 - Cell phones must be turned in or kept away
 - Students will not talk or socialize except when approved
 - Students must remain in their assigned seats except when approved
 - Students will be brought a school lunch or must bring their own lunch
- Students who choose not to comply with the Tiger Intervention Room expectations will be dismissed and assigned an out-of-school suspension.