

# Vern Riffe Career Technology Center

175 Beaver Creek Road • P.O. Box 577 • Piketon, Ohio 45661  
(740) 289-2721 • Fax: (740) 289-3422

Eric Meredith  
Superintendent

Shon Tackett  
Director



Nancy Bloomfield  
Director of Guidance

Tonya Cooper  
Treasurer

"Home of State and National Winners"  
Pike County Joint Vocational School District

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## Pike County CTC

2019 / 2020

### Attendance Requirements

It is important for every student in Ohio to attend school every day. Missing too much school has long-term, negative effects on students, such as lower achievement and graduation rates. There are many reasons students miss school, but districts often can directly impact their students' attendance. By using data to identify and support students who may need extra support and services, districts can target supports to get students to school every day. Because of the requirements of House Bill 410 it is **extremely important that you keep your contact information (address / phone number) up-to-date with the CTC**. The Pike County CTC will make attempts to contact you when required by House Bill 410 to update you on your child's attendance.

Regular school attendance is an important ingredient in students' academic success. Excessive absences interfere with students' progress in mastering knowledge and skills necessary to graduate from high school and be prepared for higher education and the workforce. To support academic success for all students, the district will partner with students and their families to identify and reduce barriers to regular school attendance. The district will utilize a continuum of strategies to reduce student absence including, but not limited to:

- Notification of student absence to the parent or guardian;
- Development and implementation of an absence intervention plan, which may include supportive services for students and families;
- Counseling;
- Parent education and parenting programs;
- Mediation;
- Intervention programs available through juvenile authorities; and
- Referral for truancy, if applicable.

### **DEFINITION OF TRUANCY AND EXCESSIVE ABSENCES**

1. Definition of 'habitual truant' changed from days to hours. The new definition is:
  - a. Absent 30 or more consecutive hours **without** a legitimate excuse;
  - b. Absent 42 or more hours in one school month **without** a legitimate excuse; or
  - c. Absent 72 or more hours in one school year **without** a legitimate excuse.

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## 2. Definition of 'excessive absences':

- a. Absent 38 or more hours in one school month **with** or **without** a legitimate excuse; or
- b. Absent 65 or more hours in one school year **with** or **without** a legitimate excuse.

## **DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN A CHILD HAS EXCESSIVE ABSENCES**

When a student is excessively absent from school, the following will occur:

1. The district will notify the student's parents in writing within 7 days of the triggering absence;
2. The student will follow the district's policy for addressing excessive absences; and
3. The district may refer the student and family to community resources as appropriate.

## **DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN A CHILD IS HABITUALLY TRUANT**

When a student is habitually truant, the following will occur:

1. Within 7 school days of the triggering absence, the district will do the following:
  - a. Select members of the absence intervention team;
  - b. Make 3 meaningful attempts to secure the participation of the student's parent or guardian on the absence intervention team.
2. Within 10 days of the triggering absence, the student will be assigned to the selected absence intervention team;
3. Within 14 school days after the assignment of the team, the district will develop the student's absence intervention plan; and
4. If the student does not make progress on the plan within 61 days or continues to be excessively absent, the district will file a complaint in the juvenile court.

**We are looking forward to the start of the 2019 / 2020 school year. Please help us this year with the attendance of your students. The best plan is to ensure your student is present at school every day. If we can be of help, please call (740) 289 – 2721.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Norman".

Chris Norman  
Assistant Director