

District 205 truancy update

Midway through the school year, chronic truancy rates are on the rise in the Rockford School District. The disappointing news comes a year after a new truancy ordinance was introduced that allowed police to ticket students for ditching school. Chronic truancy rates fell significantly in response to the new law, but halfway through this year those numbers are again on the rise. Chronic truancy is defined as missing 18 or more days without an excuse.

2007-08		CHRONIC TRUANTS			TRUANCY RATE		
HIGH SCHOOLS	ENROLLMENT	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*
Auburn	1,922	242	298	336	14.0%	16.0%	17.5%
East	1,525	373	184	239	23.3	11.3	15.7
Guilford	1,997	193	178	203	8.8	8.4	10.2
Jefferson	2,085	461	418	481	23.5	20.0	23.1
TOTAL	7,529	1,269	1,078	1,259	16.9	14.0	16.7

2007-08		CHRONIC TRUANTS			TRUANCY RATE		
MIDDLE SCHOOLS	ENROLLMENT	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*
Eisenhower	916	25	11	17	2.7%	1.1%	1.9%
Flinn	918	90	37	27	9.9	3.8	2.9
Kennedy	836	99	30	65	14.2	3.9	7.8
Lincoln	894	75	44	27	8.0	4.8	3.0
RESA	1,229	180	97	106	14.9	7.0	8.6
West	995	52	49	69	6.7	5.5	6.9
Wilson	n/a	72	44	n/a	19.8	9.9	n/a
TOTAL	5,788	593	312	311	10.2	4.9	5.4

2007-08		CHRONIC TRUANTS			TRUANCY RATE		
ELEM. SCHOOLS	ENROLLMENT	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*
Barbour	581	16	6	11	2.7%	1.0%	1.9%
Beyer	308	27	37	29	9.6	10.3	9.4
Bloom	454	13	8	16	2.8	1.8	3.5
Brookview	513	10	5	13	2.2	1.0	2.5
Carlson	312	18	6	5	5.5	2.0	1.6
Cherry Valley	208	2	1	0	0.8	0.4	0.0
Conklin	420	24	14	21	6.2	3.2	5.0
Ellis	572	57	30	25	9.5	5.1	4.4
Froberg	406	3	4	2	0.8	1.6	0.05
Gregory	320	14	5	3	4.1	1.5	0.09
Haskell	252	13	7	9	5.6	3.4	3.6
Hillman	514	21	24	18	4.4	5.9	3.5
Jackson	274	12	12	12	4.7	4.4	4.4
Johnson	353	8	6	14	2.5	1.9	4.0
King	393	2	1	1	0.5	0.2	0.03
Kishwaukee	389	23	20	24	8.4	5.6	6.2
Lathrop	412	34	10	15	8.5	2.3	3.6
Lewis Lemon	405	39	24	31	8.5	5.0	7.7
Marsh	599	11	6	10	1.8	1.0	1.7
McIntosh	388	41	35	15	9.5	8.1	3.9
Montessori	329	0	0	3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Nashold	413	16	4	11	4.4	1.0	2.7
Nelson	467	48	12	21	11.9	2.7	4.5
New Milford	219	3	2	3	1.3	0.8	1.4
Riverdahl	575	41	22	28	6.7	5.0	4.9
Rolling Green	572	3	4	6	0.5	0.7	1.0
Spring Creek	527	22	9	22	4.2	1.7	4.2
Stiles	245	39	17	33	18.7	6.4	13.5
Summerdale	298	28	18	10	9.2	5.7	3.4
Thompson	330	8	4	5	2.4	1.2	1.5
Walker	413	17	10	15	3.9	2.3	3.6
Washington	389	57	64	40	13.8	16.0	10.3
Welsh	366	29	16	8	7.7	5.0	2.2
West View	381	5	8	7	1.3	2.6	1.8
White Swan	313	4	2	1	1.3	0.8	0.03
Whitehead	395	56	25	23	14.0	5.7	5.8
TOTAL	14,305	764	478	510	5.4	3.3	3.6
DISTRICT TOTAL	27,622	2,626	1,868	2,080	9.6%	6.6%	7.5%

Note: Wilson converted to Auburn Freshman Campus

* Midyear report adjusted so that chronic truancy is defined as eight or more unexcused absences.

Source: Rockford School District Attendance Report as of Dec. 31, 2007

ROCKFORD REGISTER STAR