

JAMES A. GOMRIC

STATE'S ATTORNEY
ST. CLAIR COUNTY

10 PUBLIC SQUARE, 2nd FLOOR
BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62220-1623



STEVEN R. SALLERSON
FIRST ASSISTANT

(618) 277-3892
FAX (618) 277-6748

Dear Parent:


Your child has six unexcused absences according to your child's school superintendent. I must advise you truancy is a serious issue with serious consequences for parents, children, and our community.

Under Illinois law, parents or any person having custody or control of a child to whom notice has been given of the child's truancy and who knowingly and willfully permits a child to persist in his or her truancy within a school year, may be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor and may be subject to a maximum of 30 days imprisonment and/or fine of up to \$500. In addition, any person who induces or attempts to induce any child to be absent from school unlawfully, or who knowingly employs or harbors any child absent unlawfully from school for 3 consecutive school days is guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.

More importantly, statistics indicate chronically truant children are more likely to commit crime and end up in the criminal justice system. Clearly, that is an outcome no one wants. With all the challenges we face as a community, preventing truancy is an important way to keep kids away from crime and place them on a path towards success.

As a parent, I know how hard raising kids can be every day. So please take advantage of the opportunity to address this truancy issue in the meeting scheduled with the Local Truancy Review Board.

Sincerely,


James A. Gomric
State's Attorney
St. Clair County, Illinois

Cc: District Superintendent