

BLUE EARTH COUNTY, (SCHOOL NAME) STUDENT ATTENDANCE REVIEW TEAM MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is executed to memorialize the agreement and set forth the terms and conditions between the Blue Earth County Student Attendance Review Team (SART) members.

ESTABLISHMENT

The Student Attendance Review Team is created, and data regarding individual student's attendance may be shared with all parties pursuant to Minnesota Statute 260A.05.

MISSION OF THE BOARD

The mission of the SART is to coordinate truancy programming and services through interagency and community cooperation. The team shall establish procedures and criteria for determining when to refer a student for other appropriate action to address truancy issues for circumstances that require a more intensive intervention.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The SART may be made up of:

1. Representatives of (School) administration
2. The Principal/Assistant Principal of the respective school
3. School counselor and/or social worker
4. A representative from Blue Earth County Corrections
5. Blue Earth County Attorney
6. A representative from Blue Earth County Human Services

COOPERATIVE APPROACH

The SART members shall establish teams specific to each individual school. Such individual teams shall set regular meeting dates and times. The main function of the school team is to screen individual students who have been identified by the school as continuing truants, as defined by Minnesota Statute 260A.02, Sub. 3. The screening shall consist of evaluating what interventions or services have been provided, attempted or offered to the

student. The team will then assess what programs, services or activities may be the next appropriate step to address the truant behavior.

By meeting regularly and screening students earlier on before they meet criteria as a habitual truant the team can reduce duplication of services for students with attendance issues and refer the student for an appropriate intervention more quickly. Should the team determine interventions attempted within the SART process are not resulting in improved school attendance the team will determine when to file a truancy petition, generally by the time the student has accrued ten or more unexcused absences.

The team shall meet annually to review the makeup of team members as well as the current options for intervention. Each team will establish a plan specific to that school for identifying students to be referred to the SART, screening each student and coordinating the level of intervention needed to address the attendance problems present.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for intervention before the SART a student must meeting the following criteria:

1. The student is a continuing truant as defined by Minnesota Statute 260A.02, Sub. 3.
2. The student is a resident of Blue Earth County.
3. The student has not previously been subject to a SART intervention during that current school year.
4. The student has not previously been the subject of a truancy petition.

A student who is currently on juvenile probation for a delinquency level offense would NOT be eligible for a SART intervention.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Upon referral to the SART the student and parents will be scheduled for an intake meeting. Participation in the SART will be voluntary and the student may opt to contest the reported unexcused absences in Court in the eventual event of a truancy petition being filed.

Upon agreement of the parties for SART participation the initial term will be up to 90 days. During the term when the student is subject to the SART agreement the team may impose conditions and programming including but not limited to:

1. Attending school regularly with no unexcused absences.
2. Attending all meeting scheduled by the SART.
3. Working to their potential in each class, completing all homework assignments.
4. Be respectful to teachers, school staff, and fellow students. The student shall use appropriate language in school and not engage in threatening, harassing, intimidating or otherwise bullying behavior.

5. Abstain from the use of drugs or alcohol, unless given a prescription by a medical provider. Such prescriptions shall be taken in compliance with the prescribed amounts/dosages. The student shall be random urinalysis or breath tests when asked.
6. Sign all releases of information forms requested by the SART.
7. Cooperate with any assessment and follow all recommendations deemed appropriate.
8. Keep the SART team informed of any personal changes to address, phone numbers, work status, etc.
9. Notify the SART team if the student is arrested, given a citation or charged with any criminal offense.
10. Obey all local, state and federal laws.
11. Obey all parental rules, including curfew.
12. Comply with any recommended credit recovery programming such as night school or summer school as deemed appropriate by the SART.

TERMINATION FROM SART- REFERRAL FOR COURT INTERVENTION

A student may be terminated from the SART program and a truancy petition filed with the Court at any point during the supervision period when the student has:

1. Failed to improve attendance at school by continuing to have unexcused absences and the total number of unexcused absences for the school year is at least 10 days with one or more period unexcused; and/or
2. Otherwise violated the conditions listed in the SART Program Agreement.

Decisions made regarding timing of termination from the SART to refer for Court Intervention shall be made by consensus/majority decision of the team members. The team shall make such determination after considering the interventions made, progress to date, and the failure of the student to comply with the terms of the SART agreement.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF SART PROGRAM

To be successfully discharged from the supervision of the SART a student should demonstrate successful adjustment and substantially comply with all conditions of the SART agreement. The student should also show stability in terms of home adjustment, school attendance, employment and social relationships.

At a maximum, after 75 days of supervision by the SART, the team shall assess the student to evaluate their progress while on supervision. A consensus should be made at that time to either discharge the student from SART supervision by the 90 day mark, extend the supervision period up to an additional 45 days or terminate from SART supervision and refer to the County Attorney's Office for the filing of a truancy petition.

Additional unexcused absences accrued by a student following successful completion of SART supervision shall result in the filing of a truancy petition, not a return to SART supervision.

DURATION

The MOU is entered in at-will by the participating agencies and may be modified by the agreement of the signing partners. The MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from the partnering agencies designated below and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by consent of the parties.

PARTNERING AGENCIES

1. (School Name)
Representative:
Position:
Contact Info:
2. BLUE EARTH COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
Representative: Josh Milow, Director
Contact Info: 401 Carver Road, Mankato, MN 56002
507-304-4728
Josh.Milow@blueearthcountymn.gov
3. BLUE EARTH COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
Representative: Patrick R. McDermott, Blue Earth County Attorney
Contact Info: 401 Carver Road, P.O. Box 3129, Mankato, MN 56002
507-304-4600
Pat.McDermott@blueearthcountymn.gov

Date: _____
(School Superintendent)

Date: _____
Josh Milow, Blue Earth County Community Corrections

Date: _____
Patrick R. McDermott, Blue Earth County Attorney