

## Five Elements to Combat Truancy

1. Involve parents in all truancy prevention activities.
2. Ensure that students face firm sanctions for truancy.
3. Create meaningful incentives for parental responsibility.
4. Establish ongoing truancy prevention programs in school.
5. Involve local law enforcement in truancy reduction efforts.

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# Truancy.

Know It.

Understand It.

Prevent It.

### Additional Resources

In Case of An Emergency	9-1-1
Non-Emergency	(925) 646-2441
Business Line	(925) 252-4980
Code Enforcement	(925) 252-4010
Graffiti Hotline	(925) 252-4936

#### Outreach Website

<http://user.govoutreach.com/pittsburg>

#### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pittsburgpd>

**A Guide to the City of Pittsburg's Truancy Ordinance**



**Pittsburg Police Department**  
65 Civic Avenue - Pittsburg, CA 94565  
925-252-4980 [www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us](http://www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us)

Brian Addington  
Chief of Police



## Daytime Truancy Ordinance

The Pittsburg City Council enacted a daytime Truancy Ordinance in order to address the community's concerns for the safety of our young people. Similar ordinances have been enacted in other cities with positive results.

Pittsburg Municipal Code 9.84.015, states that minors under 18 years of age that are subject to compulsory education or compulsory continuation education, must be in school between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on days the minor's school is in session.



**When a student misses a day at school, an opportunity for learning is lost.**

Research data tells us that students who become truant and eventually drop out of school put themselves at a long term disadvantage in becoming productive citizens.

## ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

Minors that violate the Truancy Ordinance face a variety of possible consequences. Parents and guardians can also be held responsible. If it is the minor's first contact, the officer will issue the minor a warning citation and advise him or her of the consequences of a second violation. The officer will then mail a notification to the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the minor. The notification will explain the circumstances surrounding the contact, and if a second contact for truancy occurs, the parent or legal guardian may be held liable for administrative and transportation costs. **The current cost recovery is over \$100 per hour.**



If the Police Department indicates the contact is not the minor's first truancy, the officer will issue the minor a citation for violation of the Truancy Ordinance and he or she will be required to appear in Juvenile Traffic Court with a parent/guardian. If convicted, the first-time offender could face a fine of \$35 and/or be required to complete 20 hours of community service work. Second and third convictions may result in fines of \$75 and \$150 respectively and/or the truant may be required to complete 20 hours of community service work and have their driver's license suspended.

## EXCEPTIONS TO THE ORDINANCE

- The minor is accompanied by his or her parent(s), legal guardian(s), or other adult person(s) having the legal care and custody of the minor, or by his or her spouse eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- The minor is on an errand directed by his or her parent(s), legal guardian(s), or other adult person(s) having the legal care and custody of the minor, or by his/her spouse eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- The minor has permission to leave the campus and has in his or her possession a valid school-issued, off-campus permit.
- The minor is going directly to or returning from a public meeting or place of public entertainment, such as a movie, play, sporting event, dance or school activity, providing such meeting, event or activity, is a school approved activity for the minor or is otherwise supervised by the school personnel of the minor's school.
- The minor is going directly to or coming directly from a medical appointment or his or her place of lawful employment.
- The minor is receiving instruction by a qualified tutor pursuant to Education Code Section 48224, or is otherwise exempt from attendance at a public or full-time day school as set forth in the Education Code.

