

# Purpose

The **Truancy Mediation Council (TMC)** is a collaborative effort between community stakeholders to assure the regular school attendance and academic success of Cumberland County public school students.



*If you think school is boring,  
wait until you sit around an  
unemployment office.*

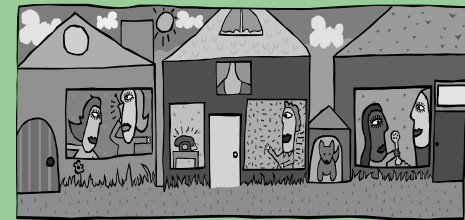
The early identification and intervention of students with school attendance problems is an effective prevention for academic failure, school dropout, and delinquency.

## Who Makes up the Cumberland County Truancy Mediation Council (TMC)?

- Cumberland County Department of Social Services
- Cumberland County Family Court
- Cumberland County Health Department
- Cumberland County Mental Health Center/ LME
- Cumberland County Schools—Social Work Services
- Cumberland County Sheriff's office
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- District Attorney's Office
- Juvenile Assessment Center
- Referring School

## Cumberland County Truancy Mediation Council (TMC)

**One Meeting,  
One Plan,  
One Child.**




For more information: Call CCS Social Work Services

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# INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Compulsory Attendance Law, NCGS 115C-378, was designed to hold parents accountable for the regular school attendance of their children enrolled in North Carolina Public Schools. Poor school attendance is typically an indicator of issues in the home, the school, or the community that are creating a barrier to the child's academic success. The Truancy Mediation Council (**TMC**) was designed to assist families who desire support in assuring the regular school attendance of their children.  **Education is the KEY to success.**

## GOALS

- To open communication between the home, the school, and the community.
- To identify previously unknown needs and offer support to families.
- To increase parental involvement.
- To develop a plan for the student's regular school attendance.
- To divert truancy cases from district court.

### How do I refer a family to the TMC?

1. Complete the **TMC** referral form and Release of Information (parent signature required).
2. Submit your referral, a current copy of the attendance summary, and record of contacts to the CCS Social Work Coordinator.

### Criteria for TMC

#### **Students who have accumulated:**

- 10 or more unexcused absences **OR**
- Less than 10 unexcused, but a history of chronic school attendance issues, **OR**
- Excessive excused absences (mommy notes)

#### **Parents/Guardians have been notified by:**

- 3, 6, and 10 day attendance letters
- 10 day school attendance conference
- 1 or more telephone calls by school personnel regarding the attendance issue
- 1 or more home visits by the school social worker regarding the attendance issue

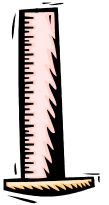
#### **School personnel have:**

- Verified the absences with the teacher and NCWise
- Verified the correct mailing address for parents
- Verified student continues to live in the school district

- Verified the attendance of **ALL** siblings enrolled in the school district
- Documented all attempts to contact the parent/guardian

### Non-Qualifying Cases

- Students with 25 or more unexcused absences
- Families with more than one school-age child with attendance issues, and ALL schools are not willing to refer the family to the **TMC**
- Families who refuse to participate.



**Do you know a family that meets the criteria for TMC?**

For more information: Call CCS Social Work Services

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