

## Mandatory Attendance for Students Under 16 Years of Age

Students under 16 years of age are required to attend class and meet state attendance requirements each night between the start of August through the end of May.

**\*\*Students under 16 years of age can meet Mandatory Attendance Requirements by:**

- 1. Attending classes ON CAMPUS for 8 hours per week: Monday through Thursday.**
  - 2. Logging in VIRTUALLY off campus for 16 hours per week: Monday through Thursday.**  
**If a Virtual Student attends on campus for one hour, they will receive 2 hours of credit toward their 16 hours per week.**
- Georgia State Code and Policies of the Georgia Board of Education encourage student attendance. Coastal Plains Charter High School Board of Education policy and procedures reflects the state laws and Georgia Board of Education policy.
  - **Coastal Plains Social Workers will contact families when students under 16 years of age do not meet the time requirements (8 hours on campus or 16 hours virtually) for two weeks within a month. If phone calls and emails are not returned, seek assistance from Site Directors or designee to conduct home visits. If this level of absenteeism persists for more than 2 consecutive months without remedy, contact the local Juvenile Court, Attendance Panel, or Children in Need of Services panel for support.**

### **Current Juvenile Code of Georgia requires:**

If a school official is bringing the complaint, additional information is required to demonstrate the steps the school has already taken to address the issue with the child. Specifically, a complaint from a school official must also include information showing that:

- The school district has tried to resolve the issue through educational approaches;
- The school district has attempted to engage the parent, guardian, or legal custodian in resolving the issue and: the parent, guardian, or legal custodian was unwilling or unable to resolve it;
- The issue remains a problem; and court intervention is needed;
- If the child is eligible or suspected to be eligible for disability or special education services, the school district has: determined the child's eligibility under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and reviewed the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP), if applicable, and made any appropriate modifications.

**The attendance protocol includes telephone and email contact with families to address students' excessive absences. There is not a standard letter since the communication to address this in our protocol is telephone calls and email.**