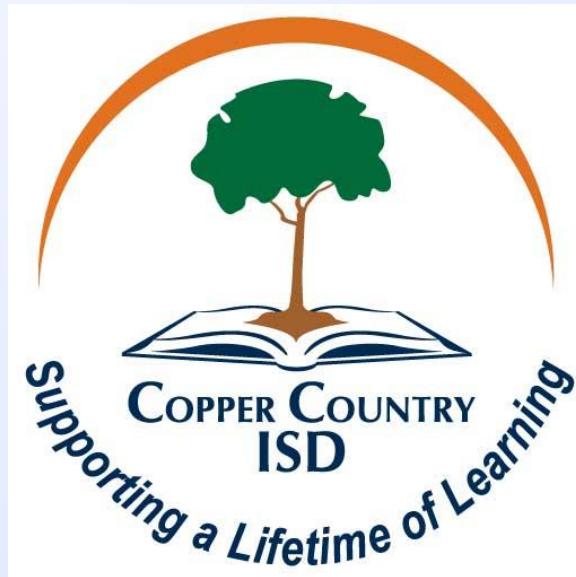


School Justice Forum

May 28, 2014

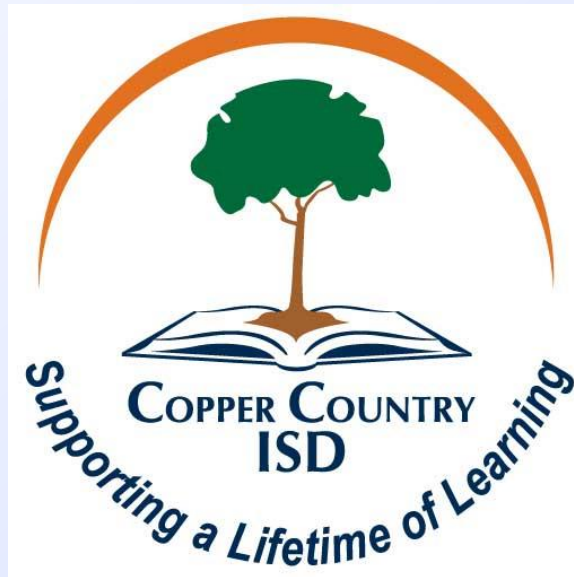
Marquette Holiday Inn



School Justice Forum

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Copper Country Intermediate School District Houghton/Baraga/Keweenaw County Truancy Program

Overview:

Dennis Harbour, Superintendent, CCISD

- Collaborative Effort involving CCISD, local schools, justice system, law enforcement and social services
- Truancy Intervention Model designed to keep kids in school, reduce the incidence of truancy and reduce cost associated with compulsory attendance requirements.

Partner Roles & Involvement:

- **Copper Country Intermediate School District:** Serves as fiscal agent and retains employment of Truant Officer; coordinates all activities.
- **Local School Districts:** Pledge financial support based on student caseload; commit personnel to work with Truant Officer.
- **Court System:** The Prosecuting Attorney, Assistant and Probate Court become involved as legally necessary and are proactive in helping resolve issues before they enter the hearing phase.
- **Sheriff Department.:** Offers assistance with locating parents' addresses that may otherwise be unavailable when home visits are necessary; will provide uniform presence if necessary. Also, deputize truant officer.
- **Department of Human Services:** Offers assistance when there is a family on the "cash assistance program," or when a report of finding is necessary.

Truant Office Intervention: William Green, Truant Officer

- Student Watch List
- Direct Contact with Parents
- Initiate Letters from School
- Filing of Non-Compliance Order
- Filing Complaint with Court
- Letter From Prosecutor
- Attendance Contract
- Initiate Involvement of DHS

**Role of Prosecutor:
Brittany Bulleit, Houghton County
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney**

- Attend meetings involving parents, students and Truant Officer
- Functions as a primary advocate for school and Truant Officer

Role of Probate Court: Fraser Strome, Houghton County Probate Judge

- Upon receipt of petition the juvenile probation officer schedules an informal meeting “Truancy Accountability Hearing” with minor child, parents/guardian, truant officer, prosecutor and at least one official from the minor child’s school.
- Goals are agreed upon and put into written form and signed off on by all parties including the minor child.
- Progress towards achieving goals is monitored by school officials, the truant officer and the juvenile probation officer.
- If truancy is not resolved, the matter is scheduled for a formal court hearing before the judge. (rare because process has been effective)