## TRUANCY AND ATTENDANCE Information FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

One of the keys to academic achievement is good attendance. Consistent participation in school and school-based activities is important for making a successful transition from youth to adulthood. Tardiness and truancy are the first indicators that a student may be experiencing stress or other difficulties in his or her life. Massachusetts laws pertaining to attendance are designed to protect children and ensure that they are safe and productive.

The following is a summary of some of the Massachusetts General Laws pertaining to attendance:

## School Attendance

Chapter 76, section 1 of the Massachusetts General Laws states that all children between the ages of six and sixteen must attend school. A school district may excuse up to seven day sessions or fourteen