

## THE DANGERS OF TRUANCY

Truancy puts students at risk for many problems, including:

- Poor grades
- Loss of credits, get behind in school
- More time required to graduate
- Drop out risk
- Low self esteem
- Trouble with the law
- Lose school and driving privileges

## HOW TO RESPOND

- Take school warnings seriously (letters, final notices)
- Talk with your child
- Contact your school
- Develop a plan with your school



## OUR GOAL IS...

To provide your child with the best opportunity for a successful future.

### Average Dollar Earnings-Table

*(by education level)*

College graduate/professional degree  
\$61,578

Bachelor's degree (4yr)  
\$46,161

Some college or associate degree (2yr)  
\$33,259

High school graduate or equivalency (GED)  
\$26,183

Less than high school  
\$17,703

*(2006 Community Survey as reported by US Census Bureau)*

## Expect the Best!!

## Jessamine County

# TRUANCY DIVERSION PROGRAM



## TRUANCY IS...

*As defined by KRS 159.150*

**Truant** – Any student who has been absent from school without a valid excuse for three (3) or more days, or tardy without valid excuse three (3) or more days.

**Habitual Truant** – Any student who has been reported as a truant two (2) or more times.

## WHY STUDENTS MISS SCHOOL...

- Difficulty with school work/assignments
- Negative attitude toward school
- Conflict with classmate or teacher
- Bullying problems
- Worried about school/family
- Feel isolated or feel like they don't fit in
- Multiple family moves
- Family issues
- Rebellion
- Hopeless about the future

## TDP IS...

A program designed by the Administrative Office of the Courts to help students who are at risk of being referred to Family Court for truancy charges. The Truancy Diversion team is made up of Court Officials, School officials from the Director of Pupil Personnel Office, School Administrators, Counselors, Youth Service Center Coordinators and Attendance Clerks.



## WHAT DOES TDP DO...

- Promotes awareness of school attendance policies
- Recognizes barriers to school attendance
- Meets with students/parents regularly
- Coordinates services with students/families
- Reviews students' attendance, grades and behavior reports
- Determines the need for court referral
- Celebrates student progress and success

## THE PARENT'S ROLE IS...

- **Create an environment that encourages education**
  - Establish a study area
  - Set a regular time for homework
  - Ask to see homework
  - Ask about their school day
- **Learn about your child's school attendance policies**
  - Note excuse procedure (parent, medical)
  - Five day rule to receive note for excuse
- **Get Involved**
  - Attend open house
  - Attend extra-curricular activities with child
  - Contact teachers
  - Volunteer
- **Be firm about school attendance**
  - Arrive on time
  - Schedule appointments outside of the school day or during breaks
  - Pick up assignments from school when absent
  - Monitor attendance by accessing the parent portal (School Information System)

