March 24, 2009

S 815. INTERVENTION PLAN AFTER UNEXCUSED ABSENCES. Filed 3/24/09. TO PERMIT STUDENTS TO MAKE UP WORK DURING UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AND TO REQUIRE SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT INTERVENTION PLANS FOR STUDENTS WITH AN EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AND FOR STUDENTS AT RISK OF DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL.

Enacts a new GS 115C-105.42 to require that schools (1) notify the parent, guardian, or custodian of a child's excessive unexcused absences from school; (2) work with the child and the child's family to analyze the causes of absences and determine steps to eliminate the problem; and (3) give students with unexcused absences an opportunity to make up and receive credit for work missed, including end-of-grade and end-of course tests. Also requires that local school administrative units develop and implement intervention plans for students who (1) have more than six unexcused absences or (2) are considering dropping out of school. Specifies that each plan must include high educational expectations, focus on the educational needs of the child, contain an accountability component, and require a signature by the child's parent or guardian. Also includes whereas clauses. Applies beginning with the 2009-10 school year.

Intro. by Preston. GS 115C