



## PLACER COUNTY PEER COURT

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### TRUANCY CHAIRPERSON RESPONSIBILITIES

- Call the panel together and be sure everyone is ready to begin.
- Announce the case and have the defendant come sit at the table.
- Read the charges and have the defendant sworn in by the clerk.

#### Ask the defendant:

- How are you doing this evening?
- How old are you?
- Do you understand how this truancy panel works?
  - If they say yes, ask them to explain it to you.
  - If they say no, explain to them how it will work.
- Do you understand that the decisions the panel makes here today are legally binding?
- Do you realize this panel can sentence small or severe punishments?
- Are you aware that almost anything sentence you receive here today will be less than you would receive from the regular court system or the School Attendance Review Board (SARB)?
- Do you realize that if this Truancy Court does not work you will be sentenced to a more serious court?
- Are you aware of the community schools where you could be transferred by the courts if you continue with attendance issues?
- Do you realize your parents can be ordered to court and convicted of a crime and can be fined for your non-attendance?
- Do you agree that you have an attendance problem?
- Do you want to continue?

#### Begin the hearing:

- Facilitate the questioning of the panel.
- In the jury room, facilitate the panel discussion and sentencing decisions
- Write the sentence on the verdict form and sign the bottom.
- Thank the defendant and ask them not to leave the courtroom.
- Explain that their sentence will be read at the conclusion of the evening's cases.