

## PURPOSE

The Truants' Alternative Program (**TAP**) is a prevention and intervention project serving students in grades K-9 (Under age 17) in public school districts in Carroll, JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties.

*TAP's principal objectives are:*

1. To help students achieve success in school
2. To increase attendance rates of truant students
3. To promote regular attendance for all students
4. To reduce the incidence of students leaving school prior to graduation

## PREVENTION SERVICES

*Parent Involvement:*

Because parents have a profound effect on a child's success in school, **TAP** encourages parents to be active participants in promoting their children's academic success.

*Special projects:*

Other activities designed to encourage academic/vocational motivation are offered in collaboration with business and other agencies.

## INTERVENTION SERVICES

*Early identification:*

**TAP** works closely with schools to identify youth with attendance problems.

*Case Coordination:*

Staff members work individually with identified students/families to find solutions to problems causing truancy or dropping out. This assistance may include the following services as deemed appropriate:

- One-on-one meetings with students to build self-esteem and determine educational goals, interests, and special needs.
- Home visits/parent support
- Referral and linkage of youth and families with appropriate community services.

*Truancy Intervention:*

The Truants' Alternative Program (**TAP**) works in cooperation with the legal system to enforce compliance with the Illinois School Code relating to compulsory attendance.

## EXCUSED ABSENCES

The State of Illinois recognizes the following situations as valid cause for absence from school:

1. Illness
2. Death in the immediate family
3. Family emergency (as determined by the board of education)
4. Religious holiday



---

*For more information, please call:*

**815-297-1041  
815-297-9032 (Fax)**



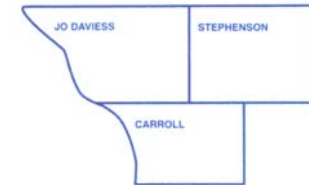
**Truants' Alternative Program (TAP)  
302 West Exchange Street  
Freeport, IL 61032**

**REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

---

**TRUANTS' ALTERNATIVE  
PROGRAM**

**TAP**



**Advocating a partnership  
between school, family, and community  
for a brighter future.**

**Administered by:**

**Marie Stiefel  
Regional Superintendent of Schools  
Carroll, Jo Daviess, and Stephenson Counties**

---