FRYSC COORDINATOR’S ROLE IN ATTENDANCE

To help clarify the role of a Family Resource or Youth Services Center (FRYSC) coordinator regarding attendance, the following should be considered:

• FRYSC Coordinators can be a part of an attendance team/truancy diversion team by taking referrals for any FRYSC related issues. Once the underlying issue contributing to attendance has been identified, a plan of action can be implemented. Coordinators can engage the parents and/or student to help find solutions to barriers that keep them from attending school every day. Home visits, as well as one on one conversation with students and parents may occur.

• FRYSC Coordinators can provide education to parents concerning district/school attendance policies. For example, Coordinators can explain the district’s parent note policy, the Enhanced Educational Opportunity policy (EHO in IC), or the definition of an excused absence and unexcused absence.

• FRYSC Coordinators can provide programs to encourage school attendance or partner with school wide campaign to spotlight attendance.

• FRYSC Coordinators can talk with and encourage those students identified as truant to become a part of other FRYSC activities.

• The importance of attendance can be discussed with students and with parents during any Center program or activity. Attendance can be tied into the activity in some way to reinforce the importance of going to school every day.

• FRYSC Coordinators should not be the first contact or make daily phone calls for attendance that would supplant the responsibilities of the attendance clerk.

• FRYSC Coordinators should not be seen as punitive and should not deliver court paperwork or deliver news about sanctions during a home visit.