

Regular Attendance is Important for Every Student

Your student adds a unique presence to the learning community, and the learning journey is richer and deeper when classroom peers learn together. Students with regular attendance are much more likely to do well in school and beyond. We are excited to partner with you in supporting your student's learning and attendance this year!

Did you know that showing up regularly to school plays a big role in your child's success? It's true! Here's why attendance matters so much:

- 1. Attendance and Success:** Good attendance is closely linked to doing well in school. When students are in school every day, they have more opportunities to learn and grow. On the flip side, if students are often absent, it's harder for them to stay on track.
 - A. Elementary: Students who attend regularly in grades K-3 are more likely to read on grade level.
 - B. Middle School: By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
 - C. High School: By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- 2. Absences Add Up:** Every day of school counts towards your child's journey of growth and discovery. Chronic absence is defined as 18 days a year—or just 2 days a month – even if those absences are excused! Missing this much school in kindergarten can lower achievement in 1st grade and, for some students, through 5th grade.
- 3. Building Confidence:** Being present when information is delivered is critical. When your child misses one day or one lesson, that means when they return to school, they may have missed something critical to their understanding of the next several days of instruction. Consistently attending school helps students stay on track and feel confident in their progress. When students are present and they're actively engaged in their learning journey, this boosts their motivation and eagerness to return to school each day.
- 4. Addressing Barriers:** It's important to figure out what's keeping your child away from school and address it as soon as possible. Keep in mind complaints of a stomachache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home. Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with schoolwork, dealing with bullying or facing some other difficulty. Whether it's transportation issues, health problems, or something else, contact the school to support and help find solutions that can make a big difference in your child's attendance and success.

Please reach out to _____
if your student needs support with attendance this year.

