

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!

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 absent often, it's harder for them to stay on track.
 - A. Elementary/K-3: Students who attend regularly are **more likely to read on grade level**.
 - B. Middle School: By 6th grade, absenteeism is **one of three signs** 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 a student's journey of growth and discovery. Chronic absence is defined as 18 days a year (or about 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 students miss a day or a lesson, that means when they return, 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. When students are present and actively engaged in their learning, this boosts motivation to return to school each day.

ADDRESSING BARRIERS: Your school can support you and your student by helping to address the barriers keeping your student away from school. This could include additional support such as help with school work, dealing with bullying, mental health support, or another issue. Schools can also connect families to important resources including transportation, healthcare, housing, or something else. Contact your school to help find solutions to make a difference for your student's attendance.

If you or your student/s need support with attendance this year, please reach out to us!