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Good attendance = school success



**Elementary Schools
September, 2018**

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

September, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we begin a new school year, I would like to remind you of the importance of good attendance. Naturally, if your child is ill we want them to stay home to recuperate. We also understand that at other times an absence is necessary for a myriad of events. However, daily attendance is crucial for your child to succeed in school. It is also one of the main factors employers review prior to hiring. Everyone understands the importance of being in school or on the job.

Research has shown that your child's attendance may be the biggest factor influencing his or her academic success. Daily attendance assists your child with the ability to keep up with the daily lessons & assignments. Also, students who attend school regularly are more likely to pass assessments.

By being present at school, your child is also learning good citizenship, as they are participating in the school community while learning valuable social skills.

Consequences of missing class can include falling behind on lessons and poorer performance on tests. Chronic absenteeism increases achievement gaps at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

Let us work together to ensure that our students are in school every day ready to learn and meet and conquer the challenges of the day.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael A. Wanko
Interim Superintendent



Help Your Child Succeed in School:

Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early!

DID YOU KNOW...

- Starting in pre-kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 days can make it harder to keep up with what is being taught in class.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance and truancy.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- For younger children, lay out clothes and pack back packs the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless he/she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make him/her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if some thing comes up. Call on a trusted family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments & extended trips when school is in session.