



Engaging Minds,  
Inspiring Dreams

September 1, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Our goal this year is to ensure every student attends school regularly.

Regularly attending school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems and other circumstances. But, we also know when students miss too much school – regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent – which means missing 18 or more days over the course of an entire school year. Research shows:

- Children chronically absent in kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- By 6<sup>th</sup> grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk of dropping out of school.
- By 9<sup>th</sup> grade good attendance can predict increased graduation rates.

Absences can add up quickly. A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every month! Clearly going to school regularly matters!

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick.
- Avoid scheduling vacations when school is in session.
- When possible, schedule appointments outside of school hours.
- Talk to teachers and counselors for advice if your children feel anxious about going to school.
- Develop back up plans for getting to school if something comes up.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so they can arrive at school on time every day. We want your children to be successful in school! If you have any questions or need more information please contact us.

Sincerely,

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