

Everybody Every Day—Attendance Matters!

- Volusia County Schools' focus is on reducing **chronic absenteeism**, which is defined as missing 10 percent of school days for any reason, whether excused or unexcused absences, including out-of-school suspensions.
- Research shows that chronic absenteeism is a primary cause of low academic achievement and a powerful predictor that students will eventually drop out of school.
- Poor attendance in the first month of school can predict chronic absence for the entire year.
- Absenteeism in...
 - ...preschool and kindergarten can influence whether a child will be held back in third grade.
 - ...kindergarten can affect whether a child develops the grit and perseverance needed to succeed in school.
 - ...middle and high school can predict dropout rates.
- Absenteeism influences not just chances for graduating but also for completing college.
- Students who are exhibiting a pattern of non-attendance must be referred to the Child Study Team for assistance with the remediation of the problem. A meeting with the parent must be scheduled to identify potential remedies.

**Chronic
Absenteeism =
missing 2 days
each month**



We Believe In E!

- **Early intervention** in school attendance is the most effective way of producing good attendance habits that will lead to improved student learning and achievement.
- Refer to the district's [Student Attendance Policy 206](#) for attendance procedures.