

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and excited to start another school year. I would like to take this opportunity to discuss a matter of utmost importance: student attendance.

Consistent and punctual attendance is a key factor in a student's academic success. When students are present in school, they benefit from the full spectrum of educational opportunities, including direct instruction, class discussions, collaborative projects, and hands-on activities. Here are a few key reasons why regular attendance is crucial:

1. **Academic Achievement:** Regular attendance helps students stay on track with their studies, ensuring they grasp new concepts and keep up with coursework. Missing school can lead to gaps in knowledge, making it harder for students to catch up and perform well in assessments.
2. **Social and Emotional Development:** School is not just about academics; it is also a place where students develop social skills and build friendships. Regular interaction with peers and teachers fosters a sense of community and belonging, which is essential for a child's overall well-being.
3. **Building Responsibility:** Attending school regularly instills a sense of responsibility and discipline in students. It teaches them the importance of commitment and helps them develop good habits that will serve them well throughout their lives.
4. **Preparation for the Future:** Consistent attendance is a predictor of future success. Whether in higher education or the workforce, regular attendance is seen as a sign of reliability and dedication. Encouraging good attendance habits now sets the foundation for future accomplishments.

As parents and guardians, you play a vital role in ensuring your child attends school regularly. Here are a few tips to help support your child's attendance:

- **Establish a Routine:** Ensure your child has a consistent bedtime and morning routine to help them wake up on time and be prepared for the school day.
- **Communicate the Importance:** Talk to your child about the importance of attending school and how it benefits them academically and socially.
- **Schedule Appointments Wisely:** Whenever possible, schedule medical and other appointments outside of school hours to minimize disruptions to your child's learning.
- **Stay Informed:** Keep in touch with your child's teachers and school staff to stay informed about their attendance and academic progress.

We understand that there may be times when your child is genuinely ill or has a valid reason for missing school. In such cases, please notify the school promptly and provide any necessary documentation. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Together, we can ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed and reach their full potential.

Melissa M. Stilley, Superintendent



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