LAKE ZURICH COMMUNITY UNIT
School District 95

Attendance Updates

Curriculum Night
Fall 2024



School Start Time

- School starts at the following times daily:
  - Elementary: 8:15
  - Middle School: 7:20 (1st period start)
  - High School: 8:40 (1st period start)

- Students who arrive after the start time are considered late

- If you drop your student off daily, please be sure to allow enough time for them to arrive and take care of any business needed prior to the start of the first class



Importance of Regular Attendance

- Regular, on-time attendance to school is essential to student academic and social-emotional growth and development

- When students miss school, they miss out on academic instruction, may have gaps in their learning, may struggle to keep up with classmates upon return, and may struggle with summative (end of unit) assessments

- When students miss school, they also miss social-emotional opportunities with students and staff (such as opportunities to develop and strengthen relationships, and opportunities to engage with peers and trusted adults)

- ***At the high school level,*** students may also miss out on certain privileges when they do not maintain regular attendance to school

Attendance Misconceptions

Myth #1: If I call to explain my student's absence excuse them, it doesn't "count"

- **Clarification:** We appreciate knowing where your student is/why they miss school; however, both excused and unexcused absences count toward a student's total absence count for the year - according to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

Myth #2: With enough notice in advance of a planned absence (such as a family vacation), my student's teachers will prepare all of the work they need to complete while out of school

- **Clarification:** Students will have access to what is posted to learning systems (such as Canvas) while they are away, but teachers generally will not prepare all work in advance of a pre-planned absence

What to expect when your student misses school...

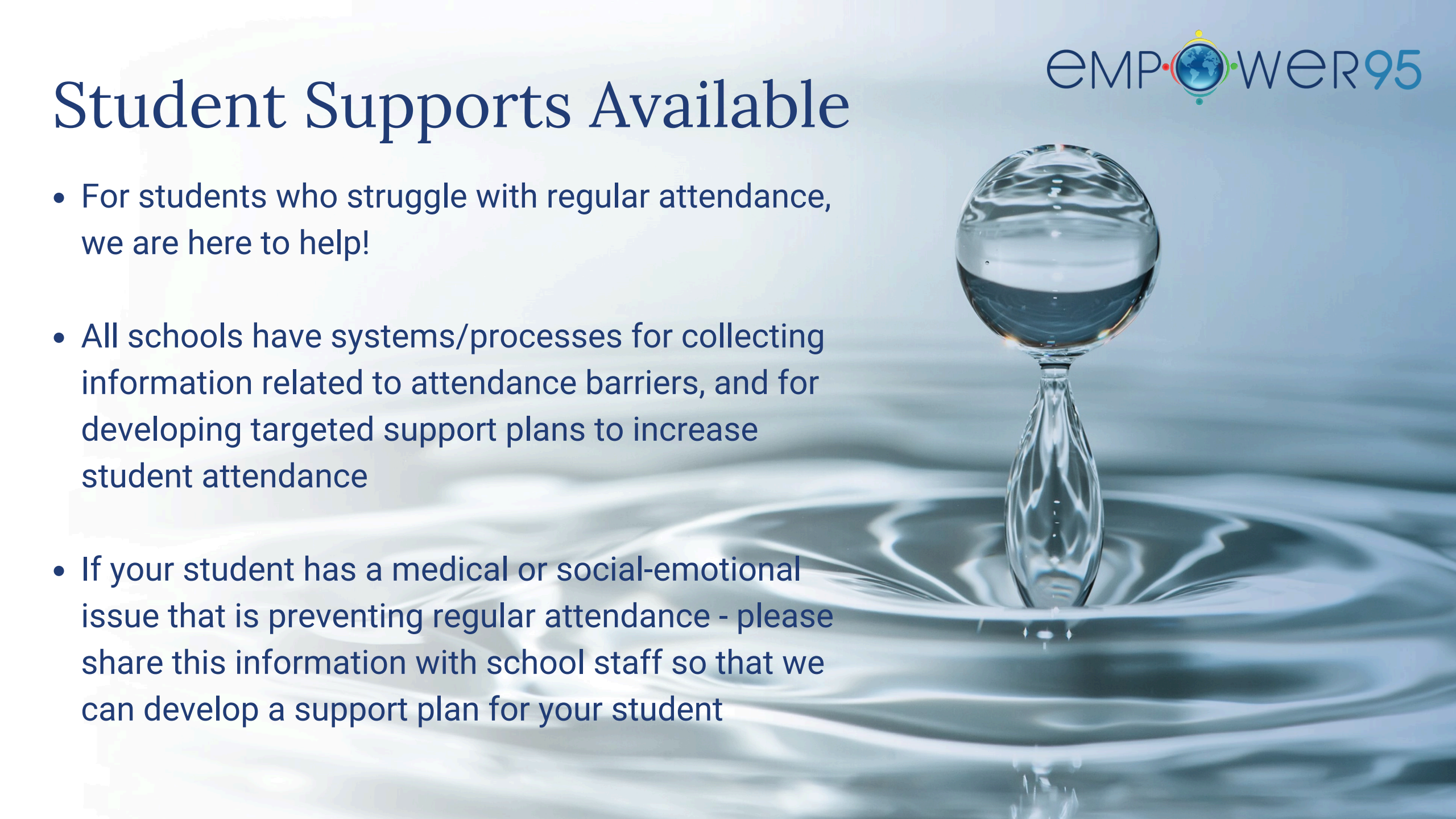
3 Consecutive Absences	Request for medical documentation (if related to illness)
5+ Consecutive Absences	Multiple contact attempts (i.e., phone, email, home visit); notifications on the 5th and 10th consecutive days of absence; unenrollment from school on the 16th consecutive day, if school staff cannot establish contact after multiple attempts *NOTE: Even in cases when families plan for extended travel (i.e., a 4-week trip) and the reason for student absence is known, they will still be unenrolled while out of the country - and may re-enroll upon return*
10+ Cumulative Absences	Notification regarding your student's attendance pattern (via letter); additional attempts to problem-solve/put in a plan to support regular student attendance, as applicable *NOTE: When students accrue **18 or more absences (excused OR unexcused)**, they are considered to have a "chronic" attendance problem by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)*

Student Supports Available

- For students who struggle with regular attendance, we are here to help!

- All schools have systems/processes for collecting information related to attendance barriers, and for developing targeted support plans to increase student attendance

- If your student has a medical or social-emotional issue that is preventing regular attendance - please share this information with school staff so that we can develop a support plan for your student

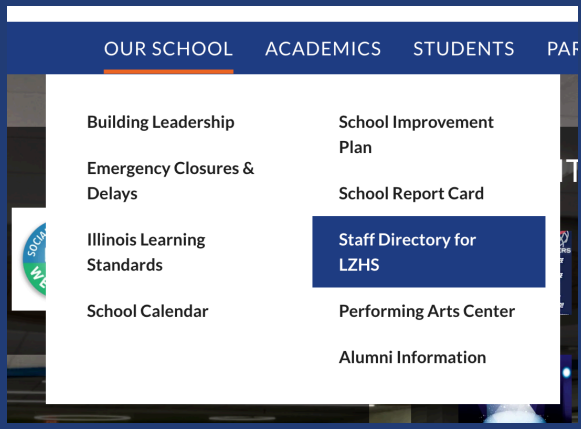


Additional Information

- For more information related to attendance procedures in District 95, families can access the Parent-Student Handbook (see **Chapter 2, Curriculum & Attendance**)

- For additional support problem-solving an attendance concern for your student, the following staff contacts can be used:
  - Medical issue - School Nurse
  - Social-emotional issue - Social Worker, School Psychologist, or Counseling staff (middle/high school only)
  - Other issues/concerns - Building administrators (i.e., Principal, Assistant Principal, Deans at the middle/high school levels)

- Staff directory information can be found under the “Our School” tab on each building’s main website page





Thank you for your partnership!