



East Brunswick High School

Achieving Excellence with Honor and Integrity



Principal

Edward J. Bucior, Ed.D

380 Cranbury Road

East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816

Phone (732) 613-6900 Fax (732) 410-6019

www.ebnet.org

Assistant Principals

Erica De Los Santos

Glen Pazinko

Christopher Yannazzo

Bear Family,

Although it is early summer, I want to take a moment to emphasize the critical importance of **consistent school attendance** for next school year in ensuring your child's academic success and overall development.

What is Chronic Absenteeism?

Chronic absenteeism is defined as **missing 10% or more of the school year for any reason**, excused or unexcused. In a typical 180-day school year, this means 18 or more absences.

At the high school level, especially within our **block scheduling model**, each day is equivalent to nearly **two days of instruction in a traditional schedule**. Missing even a single day in a core subject can significantly impact a student's understanding of the material and their ability to stay on track.

Why Attendance Matters: Key Facts

- Students who are chronically absent are **far more likely to fall behind academically**.
- In our school, **63% of all failed courses last year were from students identified as chronically absent**.
- Students risk **losing course credit** in full-year classes after 10 absences, regardless of their academic ability. Losing credit is different than failing. Students can numerically pass a class, but earn zero credit due to not fulfilling attendance requirements.
- Chronic absenteeism also affects students' **social connection, mental health, and sense of belonging** in school.

We're Here to Help

We understand that there can be valid reasons for student absences, and we are committed to working with our families to overcome any barriers to regular attendance. Our support team includes:

- **School counselors /Case managers**
- **Student Assistance Specialists**
- **East Brunswick Social and Emotional Tiered Supports**
- **Grade-level administrators**

These staff members are available to support your child in getting back on track, whether it be academically, socially, or emotionally.

Please help us by reinforcing the importance of regular attendance with your child. We want every student to thrive, and being present in school each day is one of the most powerful ways to ensure that happens.

If you have any questions or need assistance, do not hesitate to reach out to our school team. Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Bucior, Ed.D
Principal