

WHY DOES ATTENDANCE MATTER?

- Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half of students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
- Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade or be held back.
- By sixth grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.
- When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.



MY CHILD IS SICK. NOW WHAT?

What if my child is sick? Your child is too sick for school if:

- He/she has a fever over 100
- Has vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Flu-like symptoms

If your child is too sick for school, make sure to submit an excuse note! *If your student accumulates 10 or more absences (not excused by a physician or the district), families will be required to furnish a written physician's excuse for any subsequent absences.*

PIAA ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) has its own eligibility constitution and by-laws. Please visit PIAA.org for more information.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SAIP)

A school and family conference will be held upon the fifth unexcused absence to discuss the child's truancy and develop a mutually agreed upon plan to resolve truant behavior.

Brownstown Elementary

BT_Attendance@conestogavalley.org
717.656.6021

Fritz Elementary

FR_Attendance@conestogavalley.org
717.397.5246

Leola Elementary

LE_Attendance@conestogavalley.org
717.656.2068

Smoketown Elementary

ST_Attendance@conestogavalley.org
717.394.0555

Middle School

GHMS_Attendance@conestogavalley.org
717.397.1294

High School

HS_Attendance@conestogavalley.org
717.397.5231



Conestoga Valley

SCHOOL DISTRICT

502 Mt. Sidney Rd., Lancaster, PA 17602



Conestoga Valley
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Attendance Matters!



Attending school regularly is essential for students to gain the academic and social skills they need to thrive!

Attendance is an important life skill that can help your child succeed in school and beyond. Students who regularly attend school stay engaged, successful, and on track to graduate. Our educators work hard to provide meaningful instruction throughout the day and we expect students to have good attendance so they may fully participate in the learning process.



ATTENDANCE TIPS

- Make sure students keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Turn off all electronics including TVs, phones and tablets at bedtime.
- Pack backpacks and make sure clothes are ready the night before.
- Check with the school's nurse or office staff if you are not sure about when to keep your child at home due to illness.
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctors' appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to teachers and counselors if your student feels anxious about going to school.
- Develop back-up plans for getting your student to school if something comes up.



The **CV School Board**, in accordance with Pennsylvania School Code, considers the below conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school and, therefore, will be considered excused if proper documentation is presented. However, even if excused, these still count towards the 10 allowable days per year.

Excused absences are:

- Illness
- College visit
- Prior approved trips/vacations
- Religious observance/instruction
- Family death
- Required court attendance
- Family emergency

Scan me
for
complete
attendance
policy!



UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Any absence which is not covered under the definition of excused absence is classified as unexcused. Absences shall be treated as unexcused until the district receives a written excuse explaining the absence within three days of the absence.

NOTIFICATION OF EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

The "7 Day Letter": After seven (7) days of absence, for any reason, the principal will notify parents confirming those absences. The letter is for informational purposes only.

PENALTIES FOR ATTENDANCE VIOLATIONS

When a student accumulates three (3) unlawful absences, parents will be sent a "First Notice." Subsequent absences will result in prosecution. After a parent receives a First Notice, the school district will contact the parent/guardian to discuss and develop a plan to improve the child's attendance.

LATE ARRIVALS OR EARLY DISMISSALS

A late arrival is arrival at school after the start of school but less than two hours late. An early dismissal occurs when a student leaves two or more hours before the end of the school day. *Late arrivals and early dismissals are cumulative.*

Late arrivals or early dismissals are due to healthcare appointments are excused when proper documentation is provided.