

**CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION #26/27-02**

**IN SUPPORT OF
ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, good attendance is essential to student engagement, achievement, and high school graduation, and we are committed to dedicating our attention and resources to reducing chronic absenteeism. Chronic absenteeism is defined as any pupil who misses 10 percent or more of school for any reason, making no distinction between excused or unexcused absences; and

WHEREAS, Attendance Awareness Month raises public awareness that students who have good attendance in September are most likely to thrive all year. Research shows that just missing two or more days of school in September is a warning sign that a student is more likely to have problems with attendance the rest of the year; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Attendance Awareness Month in September 2026 is "*Your Presence Matters!*" This initiative calls on schools, districts, and local communities to focus on the power of student and family engagement, build a welcoming school culture in the fall, and prevent chronic absenteeism; and

WHEREAS, the impact of chronic absenteeism hits students particularly hard if they do not have the resources to make up for lost time in the classroom. Starting in Kindergarten, missing 10% of school, or about two days each month over the school year, can make it harder to learn to read. Students who are chronically absent any year between eighth and twelfth grade are 7.4 times more likely to face systemic barriers in getting to school, including unreliable transportation, lack of access to health care, unstable or unaffordable housing, and are more likely to drop out; and

WHEREAS, Conejo Valley Unified School District acknowledges that good attendance matters, and improving attendance and reducing chronic absenteeism takes commitment and collaboration. We will monitor attendance, share the data on how many students are chronically absent, and establish specific goals and actions to improve student attendance. Delivering the right interventions to our students will provide our community with prepared graduates and productive citizenry; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees does hereby recognize September as "Attendance Awareness Month." We hereby commit to reducing chronic absenteeism to give all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.



Bill Gorback, Clerk, Board of Education



Mark W. McLaughlin, Superintendent and Secretary
to the Board of Education

8/12/26