

August 2026

Dear Tumwater High School Families,

As we prepare for the 2026–2027 school year, we want to thank you for partnering with us to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed. One of the most important factors in student achievement is consistent school attendance.

Research shows that **by ninth grade, a student's attendance is a stronger predictor of graduation than eighth-grade test scores.** Every day matters. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to stay on track academically, build positive relationships with teachers and peers, participate in extracurricular activities, and graduate prepared for college, careers, and life after high school.

We ask every family to make school attendance a priority by:

- Talking with your student about the opportunities they gain by being present at school every day, including classroom learning, hands-on experiences, clubs, athletics, and connections with friends and trusted adults.
- Helping your student maintain healthy daily routines, including completing homework, establishing consistent bedtimes, and getting enough sleep.
- Considering limits on the use of phones and other electronic devices if they interfere with healthy sleep habits.
- Scheduling routine medical, dental, and other non-urgent appointments outside of the school day whenever possible.
- Supporting healthy habits that help prevent illness and encourage regular attendance.
- If your student must stay home due to illness, encouraging them to communicate with their teachers, request missed assignments, and make up learning as soon as they are able to return.

We also encourage families to stay connected with the school by:

- Becoming familiar with our attendance expectations, supports, and the consequences associated with excessive absences.
- Monitoring your student's attendance regularly in Qmlativ to ensure occasional absences do not become a pattern.
- Reaching out to school staff if attendance becomes a challenge. We are here to partner with you and can connect families with school and community resources that provide additional support.

We recognize that some absences are unavoidable. Our goal is not perfect attendance, but rather ensuring that every student is present as often as possible so they can fully benefit from the educational opportunities available each day.

Thank you for your partnership and commitment to helping your student succeed. Together, we can ensure that every student is engaged, supported, and on the path toward graduation.

Sincerely,

Tumwater High School Administration