



ATTENDANCE MATTERS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Attendance Policy Reminders for the 2026-2027 School Year

With the start of a new school year, we encourage families to review MRLS attendance expectations. Consistent attendance supports academic success, and understanding our absence reporting procedures helps us ensure every student is safely accounted for each day.

If your child is absent, please remember:

- Call to report the absence and reason for the student not being in school.
- If phone contact is not made on the day of the absence, send a written excuse with your child upon their return to school. Written excuses must be submitted within five school days.
- For absences related to a medical appointment, illness, or hospitalization, please provide a doctor's note for the absence to be considered medically excused.

Understanding Chronic Absenteeism

A student is considered chronically absent when they miss **10% or more of the school year**, which is about **18 days annually**. This includes both excused and unexcused absences.

Every school day counts. Consistent attendance helps students stay engaged, build strong academic habits, and remain on track for success.

If your family is facing challenges that affect attendance, please contact your school or the Student Services office so we can work together to provide support.

All Absences Count Toward Chronic Absenteeism

Ohio no longer differentiates between types of absences when calculating chronic absenteeism. Excused, unexcused, medical, and suspension-related absences all count toward chronic absenteeism.

Chronic Absenteeism Numbers

A student is chronically absent if they miss 10% or more of the school year (about 18 days total, or just 2-3 days a month).

Contact Information

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