

Parents Families Caregivers



5th-8th Grade

Help your child Stay in the Game! You are your child's biggest advocate. Regular attendance helps students stay engaged, build independence, and prepare for high school.

Did You **KNOW**?

A student can become chronically absent at any point, when missed school time reaches 10% or more of enrolled days.



Students who attend regularly are more prepared for high school coursework and expectations.



Regular attendance helps students build healthy habits that translate outside of the classroom.



Missing school can make it harder to keep up with lessons because classroom discussions, group work, and hands-on learning experiences are difficult to replace.



Students are more likely to participate and learn if they feel safe (emotionally and physically), connected, and supported. Students learn when they believe they can achieve.



STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP YOUR CHILD GET TO SCHOOL AND STAY IN THE GAME!

DISCUSS ATTENDANCE GOALS

- **Talk with your child** about how attendance supports learning, success and future goals.
- Monitor grades, work, and attendance, and **address concerns early** with school staff.
- **Know your school's expectations**, and communicate when challenges arise.

DEVELOP SMART ROUTINES

- **Establish consistent** sleep, morning, and school-day routines.
- **Help your child** manage assignments, adapt to new learning environments, and balance school, activities, and other responsibilities.
- **Encourage healthy habits**, physical activity, and positive online and social interactions.

For more information, visit www.stayinthegame.org

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ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP YOUR CHILD STAY IN THE GAME!

PLAN SCHEDULES ACCORDINGLY

- Schedule medical appointments and trips **outside of school hours** whenever possible.
- **Pay attention to missed school time** throughout the year and address attendance concerns before they affect learning.
- **Help your child balance** school and other commitments to support regular attendance.

CONNECT WITH SCHOOLS & TEACHERS

- **Check in regularly** with teachers to monitor academic progress and address concerns early.
- Reach out to school staff if attendance challenges or other barriers arise so **support can be provided** before getting off track.
- Keep your contact information **current and maintain communication** with the school.

GOAL!!!!!!

It's never too late in the game to score! Attendance barriers will appear on the field; work with your child and their teachers to help them Stay in the Game! and succeed!



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For more information about the Stay in the Game! Attendance Network, visit our website www.stayinthegame.org. Download this handout and other resources, subscribe to our monthly newsletter, and follow us!