

Help your child Stay in the Game! You are your child's first and most important teacher. Regular attendance builds the strong learning habits and skills that support future success.

Did You **KNOW**?

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



Learning every day helps your child understand the importance of attendance at a young age.



Chronic absence in early grades can make it harder for students to succeed in middle and high school.



Students who were never chronically absent were 3x more likely to read on grade level by 3rd grade than their peers who were chronically absent at least once in K-3rd grade.



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 about why attendance matters** and celebrate being present and engaged.
- **Partner with teachers and staff** early if attendance concerns or challenges arise.
- **Stay informed** by monitoring attendance, assignments, grades, and communications.

DEVELOP SMART ROUTINES

- **Build healthy habits** such as good sleep, hand-washing, and daily wellness routines.
- **Create consistent schedules** for school, homework, and other responsibilities.
- **Support a positive learning environment** by limiting distractions, encouraging physical activity, and staying involved in your child's online and social interactions.

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

PLAN SCHEDULES ACCORDINGLY

- Schedule appointments and wellness visits **outside of school hours** whenever possible.
- Plan family vacations or trips **during school breaks** to minimize missed learning time.
- **Keep track of your child's attendance** throughout the school year to stay aware of missed instructional time.

CONNECT WITH SCHOOLS & TEACHERS

- Stay in **regular contact** with teachers to monitor progress and address concerns early.
- **Reach out** to the school if attendance barriers arise and keep your contact info up to date.
- When absences occur, work with your child and the school to **help them stay connected** and avoid falling behind.

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!



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!