

## Let Children Know that Good Attendance Is Important:

- Attendance is a parent and student responsibility. Let your child know that you think attending school daily is important. Show them you are interested in their school activities and tell them that you want them to do well in school.
- Discuss with your student that arriving to school on time is as important as arriving.
- Take an interest in your child's school work.
- Read the school newsletter. Post the school calendar and notes on the refrigerator, or other prominent location to highlight school activities and important student information.
- Do not provide inappropriate excuses for your child to miss school. Do not let them take time off from school for minor ailments – particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work.
- Don't expect or let older children stay home from school to babysit younger siblings.
- Set good examples and enforce rules. Speak well of the school and support school staff.
- Make a contract with your child to improve his/her attendance. Reward positive improvements. Establish a Routine:
- Give yourself and children enough time to get ready. No TV on school mornings.
- Provide students their own alarm clock. Teach kids to set and use their own alarm clock or clock radio. • Set alarm clock 30 minutes earlier for students who need more time to get ready for school.
- Plan ahead the night before: such as identifying and pre-prepping breakfast, have kids choose clothes and shoes the night before, and pack their backpacks with completed homework and snacks/water. Parents can prepare for work the night before too.

- Set a regular bedtime schedule. Age should be a factor. No later than 10:00 for teens.
- Have kids bathe or shower in the evening.
- Help your child avoid television, video games, and social media when they should be sleeping. These are also over stimulating and can prevent teens from falling asleep.
- Let the school know in advance if your child is going to be absent or if you have concerns about your child's attendance or school performance.
- Report all absences on the day the student will miss school by calling the attendance office or line.
- Provide doctor's notes to the attendance clerk when medical verification is available for student's absences.
- If your child does not want to go to school, find out why and work with your school and child to address concerns. Let our child know he/she must attend school.
- If you notice your child is avoiding a particular class or is having a difficult time in one subject area, discuss this with your child and his/her teacher. Offer extra support at home. This will prevent your child from developing a behavior of avoidance in school when things become difficult.
- Get to know your children's friends and their families and make connections with other families that value school attendance.
- Ask teachers and staff at your child's school and other family members for advice on how to keep your child going to school – on time, every day!
- Make sure your child knows you do not approve of him/her being late or absent. Talk to your child about issues that may be making them late for school.
- Help your child understand the state laws and school attendance policies.
- Do not let your child persuade you into making an excuse for him/her.