

## Attendance At School

**\*The following information can be found in the District handbook attached to your school calendar.**

Regular attendance develops dependability and responsibility and allows a student to make the best use of the educational opportunities offered in our schools.

Parents/Guardians have the responsibility for their children's regular attendance at school and must notify the school of an absence before 9:00am. If no contact is made between the parent and the school, the absence will be unexcused. ***The law states that a student is considered a "chronic truant" after the 9th day of unexcused absences. After the 8th day of absence (excused or unexcused), the District requires a medical excuse from the student's doctor or medical professional for it to be considered excused.***

Absences are **excused** for:

1. Illness of a student
2. Death in the family or of a close friend
3. Critical illness of a near relative (mother, father, brother, sister, grandparent)
4. Dental or medical appointment when prior arrangements have been made
5. Absence due to bus problem beyond student's control

Absences are **unexcused** for:

1. Running errands for family
2. Staying home to care for younger children
3. Working at or away from home
4. Visiting friends or relatives
5. Shopping with parents
6. Minor aches and pains
7. Ordinary weather hazards
8. Vacations, day trips or other days where a parent electively decides to remove their student from school during attendance days.

5+ Unexcused Absences= Warning Letter from Truancy (Letter 1)

9+ Unexcused Absences= Warning Letter from Truancy (Letter 2)

18+ Unexcused Absences= Letter to appear in court which could result in a fine of \$750

***Students should arrive at school by 8:00 A.M. Please contact your student's school office within 72 hours of absence and bring medical excuses from the doctor's office, clinic, or hospital.***