

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Inspiring students to become the best they can be.

Next Step

Attendance Barriers

Your student can face barriers that make attendance difficult. They may feel academic work is too hard, may struggle to keep up, or may not be engaged in the material. Conflict with other students or bullying can also affect them.

Addressing barriers:

- Best resolved by having the student at school;
- Have a conversation with school staff regarding student's barriers;
- School staff will work with parents, staff, and community groups to support all students.

Parents Can Help

School Comes First—Let your student know that attending school is non-negotiable.

Establish Daily Routines—Talk about the school day, finish homework, prepare lunches for the next day, and get a full night's sleep.

Appointments or Family Trips—Whenever possible, schedule these on non-school days such as weekends, PD Days, or school breaks.

Reduce Anxiety—Attend parent-teacher events/interviews with your student.

Send Your Student to School—Unless they are really sick and not just nervous or anxious.

Communicate with the School—Contact the school early on if your student is having difficulty getting to school. The school may be able to help.

What Will We Do

- Provide a welcoming environment for students.
- Have school be engaging and meaningful.
- Address learning needs as they arise.
- Regularly monitor your student's attendance.
- Make contact with home to discuss of irregular attendance.
- Provide support when a student will not go to school.
- Support concerns through a team of professionals who care about the student's well-being.

Regular Attendance

Although Next Step provides a flexible environment, regular attendance is extremely important to student success. Regular attendance:

- Positively impacts all learning;
- Builds healthy habits that last a lifetime;
- Allows students to feel connected;
- Supports successful completion of studies;
- Strengthens peer and teacher relationships;
- Provides opportunities for students to make a difference in the school community;
- Increases student's abilities to focus and work independently;
- Increases high school graduation rates; and
- Creates patterns for future success.

**EVERY
DAY
COUNTS!**

Missing 18 days in a school year = a full month of school

ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW