



The Importance of School Attendance for all grade levels Pre K - 12th Grade

The MORE you GO...the MORE you KNOW!

What every parent should know! Important information about your child's education!!!

The GOOD NEWS!!!

Every school day matters!!!

- Attending school every day is a critical part of a child's educational success, therefore encouraging your child to attend every day helps keep them on the road to succeed and graduate.
- When students improve their attendance, they improve academically and have a greater chance of graduating.
- Good attendance has a major impact on student achievement.
- Students who attend school regularly are more likely to pass year end reading and math assessments.
- Attendance improves when parents are engaged in their child's academic progress and encourages regular school attendance.
- A parent's commitment to school attendance sends a message that education is extremely important and a priority for your family.

The BAD NEWS!!!

- Reports show school attendance rates starting as early as preschool and kindergarten are contributing to achievement gaps and high school dropout rates across the country.
- Poor attendance in early grades (elementary school) can set a pattern of poor attendance in higher grades and perform academically lower than their peers who have better attendance.
- Studies show children with poor attendance (starting as early as Pre-K and Kindergarten) have trouble mastering reading and have a weaker development of social skills needed to promote to the next grade level and are more likely to be retained by 3rd grade.
- Poor school attendance effects academic performance at every grade level and could mean the difference between passing or failing. It is also a good indicator they may not be on track to graduate.
- By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student is at-risk for dropping out of high school.
- Missing 2 days a month means a child misses 10% of school which can negatively affect a student's academic performance. (students who miss 9 or more days in a semester or 18 days in a school year risk losing credit) Missing 10 or more days is consider "chronic absences."
- The academic impact of poor attendance is the same whether the absences are excused or unexcused. Suspensions also add to loss of instructional time in the classroom.

#attendschooleveryday

How can I help my child succeed in school?

- Take an active role in your child's education and stay informed on their academic progress. (Parents should attend back to school meetings, orientations and especially parent-teacher conferences; check your child's grades and attendance regularly)
- Read the school's guidelines and attendance policies. Keep the school informed when your child misses school and turn in notes to avoid unexcused absences.
- Plan ahead to limit your child's absences and tardies.
- Make school attendance a priority by getting them to school and on time every day.
- Check your child's classwork and review homework assignments daily.
- Communicate with your child's teacher regularly. (call or email) This lets your child know you are aware of what happens at school and communicating with their teachers keeps you informed on their academic progress and behavior in class. Communicating with teachers also allows you to keep them informed on issues your child may be experiencing. This helps teachers better understand your child and aware of any behavioral changes in their class. They may also need extra support and encouragement during difficult times.
- If your child appears to be upset or reluctant to attend school, schedule an appointment with your child's principal, counselor, or teacher.
- Limit the amount of time your child misses school by making appointments after school.
- Children need to get plenty of sleep. (minimum of 8 hours) Help them get to bed on time by turning off the T.V., phones, computers or video games early.
- Teach them how to use an alarm clock so they can get up on time.
- Some children pretend to be sick because they like to stay home. Encourage them to go to school and only allow them to miss school if they have a fever. This will let them know you value education and it is important to you. Express to your child going to school and getting a good education puts them in the right direction to succeed in life and seeing them graduate is one of the greatest honor and reward they can give to their family.

For more information about school attendance or to report students skipping school or not enrolled, please call:

District Truancy/Attendance Office - Main number (281) 420-5193

GCCISD Truant Officer – Lisa Vaughan (281) 707-3801

GCCISD Truant Officer – Carrie Fry (281) 707-3385

Missing school matters.....

Attend Today.....Achieve Tomorrow.....