

# BRINGING ATTENDANCE HOME

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Attendance – to be present at or to go to school

Absence – not present or at a usual expected place; missing school

### Tardy - Being late to school

Excused Absence – missing school with an allowable excuse

### Unexcused Absence – missing school without an allowable excuse

Chronic Absenteeism – missing too much school, two days a month or more or 10% of school year both excused and unexcused

https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/toolkits/early-education-toolkit/

## School Definitions

### Excused Absences

Illness of the student or medical appointments Urgent need of the child to be at home due to illness in the immediate family Death in the family Absences for religious observances Participation in a district approved or school sponsored activity or event

### Unexcused Absences

Oversleeping; Alarm Failure Needed at home; Babysitting Personal Grooming Appointments Skipping Class without Proper Permission Missing the bus; car trouble

### **Icebreaker**

- What makes it hard for you as a parent to get your child or children to school every day?
- What motivates and helps you to get your child to school despite these challenges?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences (excused and unexcused) can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) increases the chance that your student will not read or master math at the same level as their peers.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.

### Did You Know?

- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher must slow down learning to help children catch up.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By being present at school, your child learns valuable social skills and can develop meaningful relationships with other students and school staff.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with schoolwork, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.



### Benefits for Attending School Regularly

1. Achievement: Students who attend school regularly are more likely to do better on reading and math assessments than students who do not attend school regularly.

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# MATH & READING

### Benefits for Attending School Regularly

2. Opportunity: Being in school every day gives students opportunities to learn from others and to learn important information about future aspirations.



### Benefits for Attending School Regularly

3. Exposure to the English Language: Regular school attendance can also help students who are learning English by giving them the opportunity to master skills more quickly.



### Benefits for Attending School Regularly

4. Being Part of the School Community: Just by being present at school, your child/adolescent is learning how to participate in the school community and learning valuable social skills.



Quiz

Which Month of the Schoolyear is Most Important as it Relates to Attendance?



# September is Important!

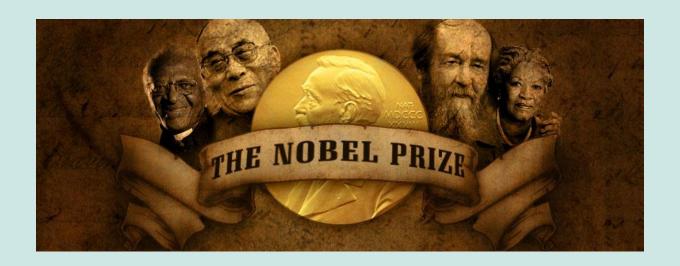
Did you know that absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year?

Students who missed 2 to 4 days in September were 5 times more likely than those who missed fewer than 2 days to be chronically absent for the year.

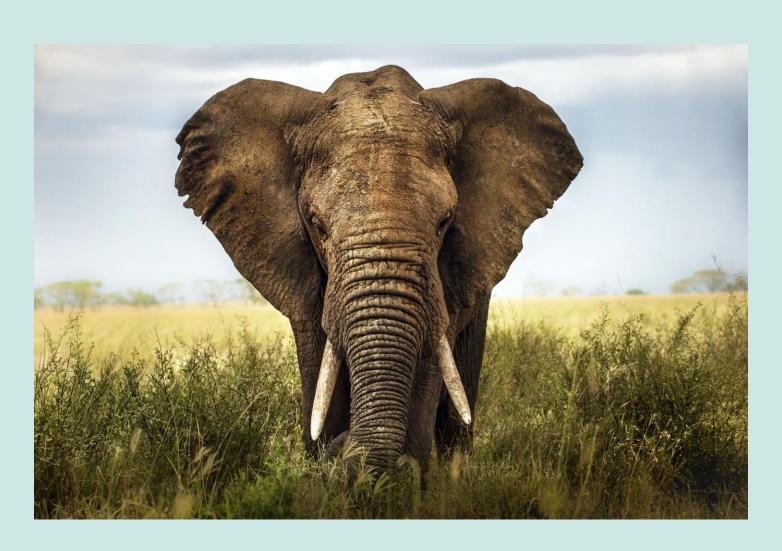
Students who missed fewer than 2 days in September continued to average fewer than 2 days absent each month.

### 2 Volunteers

- It won't be dangerous ©
- It will be fun!
- You win a prize!



### Washing The Elephant



## What Does It Take To Get a Child To School Every Day?

#### 1. Family Practices

Families nurture a habit of attendance at home

#### 3. Schools

Teachers, nurses, counselors, administrators, etc.

### 2. Helpers

Helpers who are relatives, friends, neighbors

### 4. Community Services

Availability of services like transportation, health services, affordable stable housing, etc.

### What is one key idea that you will take away with you and practice?



### Survey

English





**Spanish** 

### Attendance Works Resources

- www.attendanceworks.org
- https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/to olkits/early-education-toolkit/
- https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/to olkits/bringing-attendance-home/
- https://www.ksdetasn.org/kpirc/kpircresources

### Free Resources From KPIRC

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