Good school attendance makes an important difference in a child’s success in learning, graduating, and attaining goals for college and job. Students who skip regularly think that no one notices and that there are no real bad consequences. They also say that parents can have a stronger effect on decision making about attendance than authority figures from schools.

**Reading**
Kids with good attendance in kindergarten and 1st grade are more likely to read proficiently by the end of 3rd grade.

**Early Grades**

**Persistence to Graduation**
By 6th grade, absenteeism is 1 of 3 signs that a student may drop out. Absences signal a student is losing interest in school or struggling. Skipping avoids the issue but does not deal with it.

Talk to your child about the problems they face getting to school. Figure out approaches to try that will help. School staff are available to help!

**School Staff Can Help**
Talk to your child’s teacher or guidance counselor for help with challenges to getting to school everyday. Schools can connect you to resources for food and social services, transportation, health care, counseling, etc.

**Middle School**

**Missing Pieces of Instruction**
Day-to-day lessons build on each other like pieces of a puzzle, so missing class makes it harder to keep up. Students also rely on each other for team projects, so being present each day creates stronger teamwork.

**Good Attendance = Graduation**
By 9th grade, regular attendance is a better predictor of graduation than 8th grade test scores. Students who miss more than 10 days of school are 20% less likely to graduate.

**High School**

**Career Success**
Showing up every day is a life skill that will help with getting and keeping a job. High school graduates earn, on average, $1 million more than dropouts over a lifetime.