



### Student Absences:

The Connecticut state law requires parents/ guardians be made aware of their legal obligation to ensure their child attends school. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Start building this habit in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Chronic absenteeism is an early indicator of future academic difficulty. Help us prepare your child for their bright future by getting them to school every day and on time!

### Acceptable Reasons for a Student Absence to Be Considered Excused:

For absences one through nine, a student's absences are considered excused when the student's parent/guardian approves such absence and submits appropriate documentation within 10 days.

For the tenth absence and all absences thereafter, a student's absence from school is only considered excused for the following reasons and must have a parent note and in some cases additional documentation.

- Student illness, verified by an appropriately licensed medical professional, regardless of length of absence
- Student's observance of a religious holiday
- Death in a child's family or other emergency beyond the control of the student's family
- The lack of transportation that is normally provided by the district
- Mandated court appearance
- Extraordinary educational opportunities pre-approved by district administrators and in accordance with Connecticut State Department of Education

If a student accrues four unexcused absences in one month, or has ten or more absences in a school year, this student is in danger of approaching chronic absenteeism. Absences exceeding nine in the school year or four in one month is considered **chronic absenteeism**. At this time a letter will be sent home to request a parent meeting to work together to ensure better school attendance for the child.