



Why Attendance Matters in Trenton Public Schools

pre-k and kindergarten students	elementary students	middle and high school students
learn a new word or sound	learn a new word, math skill, or science theory	learn about a new, interesting topic
learn a new math concept	become independent and responsible	connect with adults
make new friends	learn to work with others	explore careers

CHRONIC ABSENCE

20 ABSENCES IN A YEAR
as few as 2 absences a month

students who are chronically absent

- struggle academically
- are more likely to be held back
- are more likely to drop out
- are more likely to get in trouble with the law

DEVELOPING GOOD attendance HABITS



- MAKE SCHOOL A PART OF YOUR FAMILY'S DAILY LIFE**
Set routines that your family sticks to every day. Set times for waking up, doing homework, and going to bed. Check in with your child every day to ask about what happened at school.
- KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL**
Keep in touch with your child's teacher and let your child's school know if he or she needs to miss school. And update your phone number or address if anything changes.
- HAVE A BACK-UP PLAN**
Connect with other parents so that you have people you can reach out to for help (like needing help getting your child to or from school).
- KNOW YOUR STUFF**
Know your school's attendance policy and what's being taught in the classroom.
- PLAN FOR THE YEAR**
Schedule family vacations, medical check-ups, dental visits, and other appointments during school breaks or on the weekend whenever possible.
- WORK TOGETHER**
If your child has to be absent from school, make sure to get a make-up packet from your child's teacher and help him or her complete the work.

Source: Baltimore City Public Schools