**#FACT: Attendance Awareness Facts to think about!**

**10 important facts about attendance and absenteeism:**

* Half of students who miss two to four days of school in September will go on to miss nearly a month of school.
* Poor attendance can have an impact on a student’s ability to read proficiently by the third grade. Reading proficiency by the third grade is the most important predictor of high school graduation and career success.
* By sixth grade, chronic absence (two or more days per month) becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.
* Attendance reflects a student’s engagement in their learning.
* Creating a habit of good attendance helps students learn the future skills, persistence, and grit needed to show up every day for college and work.
* Students who are chronically absent (10 percent of the school year) show reduced grade point averages and reduced scores in math, language, and science.
* In the United States, approximately five million to seven and a half million children miss more than 18 days each school year.
* A chronically absent student will have missed more than a year of school by high school graduation.
* One in ten kindergarten and first-grade students miss more than 18 days of school a year, nearly an entire month.
* When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.

**10 ways you can help your child show up to class:**

* Set your alarm each night to allow for plenty of time to get ready. Leave extra time for any unexpected delays.
* Prepare for the morning the night before. Lay out outfits, be sure backpacks are ready to go, and pre-pack lunches.
* Make sure you have a backup plan in place for if your normal transportation plan falls through.
* Establish a bedtime routine that ensures a restful night.
* Check the weather and plan accordingly.
* Help keep your child engaged with their school day by asking them what they did in school, what their favorite part of the day was, or what they learned.
* Let the school administration know if you are having any issues getting your child to school.
* Avoid scheduling appointments for your child during school hours. Check the school calendar when planning family vacations to make sure they align with days off.
* Keep the television turned off on school mornings and avoid other distractions that can take away from your routine.
* Save time in the morning by having your child bathe or shower before bed.

\*Facts compiled from attendanceworks.org