The Omaha Public Schools strongly believes that daily attendance is critical to academic achievement. **We expect every student to attend school and classes on time every day.**

OPS Research shows that there is a meaningful link between student attendance and achievement. The graph below shows results from the 2013-2014 Nebraska State Assessment (NeSA) in Reading and Math for OPS students who have 10 or more absences compared to those who have less than 10 days annual absences. When comparing the average NeSA Scale Scores of these two student groups, the scores are 18 points higher in Reading and 21 points higher in Math for students who attend school regularly. **Attendance makes a difference!**

For further assistance, contact your child’s school counselor.

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**Impact of Attendance on Student Achievement**

NeSA Reading & NeSA Math (2013-2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Less Than 10 Absences</th>
<th>More Than 10 Absences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NeSA Reading</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NeSA Mathematics</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>97</td>
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</tbody>
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Young people are more successful in school when caring adults are involved in their education. This is true from preschool through high school.

The single most important factor contributing to student achievement is school attendance. Students must be in school to be successful.
Did you know that students who attend school regularly...

- have higher test scores?
- are more involved in school activities?
- feel safer?
- maintain healthy friendships?
- are less inclined to participate in at-risk behaviors?
- are more likely to graduate?
- are more likely to attend college?

... in math, reading, social studies, science, art, history, writing and...

Attendance!

Habits that children develop in their school “career” often transfer to their work career. Help your child develop the habit of attending school every day, on time, and being prepared for the day!

What the School Can Do:
- Provide a welcoming atmosphere, stimulating curriculum, and safe learning environment.
- Offer personnel resources (e.g., Teachers, Counselors, School Support Liaisons, School Psychologists, Social Workers, Community Counselors) to assist with social and academic concerns.
- Communicate progress with students and families.

What You Can Do:
- Start the night before. Assist with/review homework assignments and sign necessary forms.
- Establish bedtime routine that is appropriate to the age of the child.
- Have breakfast foods available or take advantage of the free breakfast offered at school.
- Role model being on time, being prepared, and having a positive attitude about work.
- Should attendance problems occur, contact the school counselor to develop a plan to resolve the issue.

What Your Child Can Do:
- Complete homework assignments.
- Set an alarm clock allowing enough time to get ready and eat breakfast.
- Decide what clothing to wear and lay it out for the next day.
- Place jacket and backpack by the door that will be used to leave in the morning.
- Have a positive attitude and look forward to the school day.