## What is chronic absenteeism?

Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10 percent or more of school for any reason.


Chronic absence is different from truancy (unexcused absences only) or average daily attendance (how many students show up to school each day).

## Chronic Absenteeism Data



## Attendance Matters

- Missing just $10 \%$ of school negatively affects a student's academic performance. That is just two days a month.

- Only 17 percent of students who were chronically absent in both kindergarten and first grade were reading proficiently in third grade, compared to 64 percent of those with good attendance.
- Students who fail to read at grade level by the end of third grade are four times more likely than students who achieve proficiency to drop out of high school.
- By 6th grade, chronic absenteeism becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.

Multi-tiered System of
Support for Attendance


## How Can Families Support Student Attendance?

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up.
- Monitor your child's academic progress and seek help from teachers when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Encourage your teen to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to their teacher, school counselor, and other parents for guidance and support.

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