

Hello, Bay District Schools family,

Did you know that when a student misses just 2 days of school each month, by the time they graduate they will have missed more than an entire school year of learning? That's why attendance matters...and why I want to talk about it today.

September is Attendance Awareness Month, and it gives us the opportunity to highlight one of the most important foundations of student success: showing up. Attendance is one of the five pillars in our commitment to putting the "A" back in Bay—along with Accountability, Academics, the Arts, and Athletics. When students show up, they build the foundation that makes every other pillar possible. The simple truth is this: students do better in school...when they are IN school.

We recognize that life happens. Students get sick, and sometimes families face challenges that make attendance difficult. That's why our PRESENT Team, led by Jennifer Jennings, is here to support families in overcoming barriers like transportation, health concerns, or other obstacles. If your family is facing challenges that make attendance difficult, please give us a call at the district office or reach out through your school, and we'll connect you with the PRESENT Team right away.

Ensuring good attendance is a shared responsibility. It takes our schools, our families, and our community working together to make sure students are present, engaged, and ready to learn. Every day in class makes a difference—not only in academics, but also in personal growth and future success.

So this September, as we recognize Attendance Awareness Month, let's renew our commitment to helping students be in school every day.

So let's keep showing up, and together, putting the 'A' back in Bay."