

[DATE]

Dear Parents,

As we gear up for a new school year, we’d like to take a moment to remind our [NAME OF SCHOOL] families about the importance of maintaining excellent attendance this 2024 – 2025 school year.

Since COVID, chronic absenteeism, or missing one or two days of school every few weeks, has increased significantly, both in Idaho and nationwide. Chronic absenteeism can have **significant** impacts on both short and long-term student achievement, especially for younger students learning skills critical to future success, like literacy. Younger students who regularly miss school may also experience troubles with maintaining relationships and fully engaging with their school and learning.

Also, with Idaho’s return to an attendance-based school funding model, attendance also affects the amount of resources the state sends to our district.

Accompanying this letter is [NAME OF SCHOOL]’s attendance policy, as well as some resources to help families better understand attendance-related issues like student achievement, health and wellness and more.

Please direct any questions on the attendance policy to [NAME OF CONTACT]. Questions related to student health can be directed to [NAME OF SCHOOL NURSE, IF APPLICABLE. IF NOT, PLEASE REMOVE SECTION]. I hope that you’ll join us in supporting student learning and our [NAME OF SCHOOL] community.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME AND TITLE]