

Fall 2009

Now that the first semester is well underway and classes are beginning to report grades, attendance and disciplinary actions; parents are constantly searching for tips to encourage regular school attendance. Here are a few helpful tips for parents in order to help their child's attendance and ultimately school achievement.

Let Children Know that Good Attendance Is Important

- Attendance is a parent and student responsibility. Let your child know that you think attending school daily is important. Show them you are interested in their school activities and tell them that you want them to do well in school.
- Good attendance habits start at an early age. Make sure your child goes to school regularly and on time. This helps them develop a positive view of school and the importance of attendance.
- Discuss with your student that arriving to school on time and to report to class when dropped off.

Establish a Routine

- Give yourself and children enough time to get ready. No TV on school mornings!
- Provide students their own alarm clock. Teach kids to set and use their own alarm clock or clock radios.
- Set a regular bedtime schedule....age should not be a factor!

Show Interest in Student's Activities

- Attend Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Attend Back to School Night and Parent Meetings

- Make education a family priority

Keep Open Lines of Communication with your Children, Teacher, Principal and School Attendance Office

- Let the school know in advance if your child is going to be absent or if you have concerns about your child's attendance or school performance.
- Provide doctor's notes to the attendance clerk when medical verification is available for student's absences.
- Report all absences on the day the student will miss school by calling the school office.

Don Harding
Attendance Coordinator
Preston Co. Schools
304/290-1769
dharding@access.k12.wv.us