

# Heatly News

## Attendance and Academic Success



It's that time of year. The snow is coming down, it's freezing outside and you would like nothing more than to stay in bed all day long. Chances are, your child is feeling the same way. But don't let the cold weather and comfy pj's stop your child from attending school. Of course, if your child is ill, please keep them home. However, if you feel they are able to function throughout the day, send them to school to avoid consequences.

It is absolutely necessary for your child to attend school to maintain good grades. By not going to school, they miss important information that may be needed later on for a test. They will need to play catch up for the next few days, creating added stress. In one study, it was found that excessive absences correlate with negative academic success rates.

Being late, especially in the upper grades will also affect their success as a student. Consistently coming in late to school will cause your child to miss information discussed in their first period class. Although 10 minutes may seem harmless, these first 10 minutes of class are usually when the teacher gives out important information and makes necessary announcements. For the lower grades, arriving to school late will cause a disruption not only for your child in their morning activities, but also for the other children in the classroom. Many children thrive on schedules. When they arrive late, their schedule is thrown off, negatively impacting their morning or even their entire day.

To combat frequent absences or tardies, stress the importance of arriving to school. Talk with your child and tell them how

much you care about their grades. Be a good role model for your child by arriving to work on time- let your child know what would happen if you were late to your job. If your child is constantly running late, try waking up and going to bed earlier. Make a schedule of tasks that need to be completed before going to bed and to school. Get ready the night before. Be sure all homework is completed, permission slips signed and projects are ready to go for the morning. By having everything ready, your child will sleep easier and the morning will go smoothly.

If your child is suddenly missing school for an unexplained reason, try to find the reason behind it. Sometimes, an argument between friends or a disagreement with teachers can cause a child to feign ill. Our door is always open to discuss a solution to ensure your child's academic and personal success.

Please view a recent article from the Times Union on teen sleep schedules for more information

<http://archives.timesunion.com/mweb/wmsql.wm.request?oneimage&imageid=8530077>

Notes must be sent in no more than 3 days after the return. Excused absences include sickness, college visits, a death in the family or a requirement to be in court.

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### Help Us Help Your Child!

Please make every effort to send your child to school on time! If you have questions or need clarification on the attendance policy, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

## Green Island's Attendance Policy

For all students, being absent for 20 days without a legal excuse will have a note sent home with possible further consequences for educational neglect.

In the high school, being late three times to school

will warrant a detention. A student will not receive credit for a class if they miss 20 classes unexcused or 30 days regardless of excused or unexcused. Students who are 20 minutes late are considered absent from class.

### Contact Our Office!

273-1422 x. 2008

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## Attendance Details

Rule/Violation	Consequence
To be present and prepared for school and class (K-12)	May contact parent/guardian
To arrive on time everyday (K-12)	May involve social worker, psychologist in developing corrective action plan.
Multiple unexcused tardiness (K-12)	Chronic lateness will result in parent conference, suspension, PINS and/or contact of other local authorities.
5 total absences (7-12) excused or unexcused in a full or half year course	A letter will be sent home to parents
10 total absences (7-12) excused or unexcused in a full or half year course	A letter will be sent home to parents. If it is a half year course, the letter will notify parents that the student is in danger of losing credit for the class. A parental meeting will be requested.
15 total absences (7-12) excused or unexcused in half year course	Letter sent home informing parents that with one more absence, credit will be lost. Parental meeting will be requested.
15 total absences (7-12) excused or unexcused in full year course	A letter will be sent home to parents
20 total absences (7-12) with some/all excused in full year course	A letter will be sent home to parents and a parental meeting will be requested.
25 total absences (7-12) with some/all excused in full year course	A letter will be sent home to parents and a parental meeting will be requested.
30 total absences (7-12) with some/all excused in full year course	Letter sent home informing parents that with one more absence, credit will be lost. Parental meeting will be requested.

## Other General Attendance Policies

- If a student misses 10 consecutive days or 20 days total of school, local authorities will be contacted.
- It is the responsibility of the school to provide full time academic instruction to eligible students, however, it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that their children attend school on a regular basis.
- When a student exceeds the maximum amount of absences, the student's work will no longer be graded. Students will then be required to audit the course (complete all work and attend class without receiving credit) to be eligible to take the class in summer school.
- When a student is absent from class, they are responsible for making up missed work. If it is not made up with-in a reasonable amount of time as determined by school administration, the student may receive a "zero" for the assignment.
- If a parent knows that a student will be illegally for three or more consecutive days, it is the responsibility of the guardian to notify the school and arrange for work to be sent home or home-tutoring to be arranged. Parents must provide a note from a medical doctor in order for the absence to be considered legal.