

# Spotlight On

# ATTENDANCE



**Regular attendance is crucial for success in elementary school.**

**Help your child succeed in school. Make sure your child is in school every day!**

## The Importance of Attendance

- ▶ **Absences add up.** Even if your child misses just a few days here and there, his/her grades are likely to suffer.
- ▶ **Elementary attendance impacts reading.** Frequent absences in elementary school have been shown to significantly affect a student's reading skills.
- ▶ **Elementary attendance problems can negatively impact a student's future.** Research shows that by sixth grade, attendance problems become a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.
- ▶ **Attendance affects social growth.** At school, students learn to interact with others, make friends, and build relationships with adults outside their family.

## To Improve Attendance...

- ▶ **Develop routines.** Get everything your child needs for school ready the night before. Set out (or have your child set out) clothes, shoes, socks, coat, and backpack.
- ▶ **Be informed.** Know bus pick up times, parent drop off times, and school bell times. Determine what time your child needs to be "out the door" to get to school on time.
- ▶ **Get support.** If you have difficulty getting your child to and from school, or if your child doesn't seem to want to go to school for any reason, talk to your child's teacher, school counselor, or an administrator.