



**Dr. Malinda Cobb**

Superintendent of Schools

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Richmond County School System  
864 Broad St., Augusta, GA 30904

Dear RCSS Families,

September is **Attendance Awareness Month**, a time when schools across the nation highlight the importance of being present and engaged in learning every day. Regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of student success, and when students miss school, even just a few days each month, it can add up to lost learning time.

**Why Attendance Matters**

- Students who miss more than 10% of the school year (about 18 days) are considered chronically absent.
- Chronic absence, whether excused or unexcused, can impact grades, relationships with peers, and long-term academic success.
- By attending school regularly, students build confidence, strengthen connections, and stay on track for graduation.

**Balancing Health and Attendance**

We know some absences are unavoidable, especially as we enter flu season and continue to monitor respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19, pneumonia, the flu, and more. Please keep your child home if they have a fever, vomiting, or another contagious illness. Students should not return to school until their symptoms improve, and they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine. Practicing good hygiene, staying up to date on vaccinations, and encouraging healthy routines can help prevent illness and reduce absences.

**How Families Can Help**

864 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901  
[rcboe.org](http://rcboe.org)

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
*Empowering Every Learner Every Day.*

**VISION STATEMENT**  
*To prepare every student to thrive, adapt, and lead in an ever-changing world.*



- Set consistent morning and bedtime routines so students are rested and ready for school.
- Schedule medical and dental appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.
- Encourage your child to share concerns about school and reach out to us if challenges arise.
- Have a back-up transportation plan for days when the unexpected happens.

Our schools are committed to partnering with families to support strong attendance. If you need help addressing barriers like transportation, health concerns, or school anxiety, please contact your child's teacher, counselor, or administrator.

Thank you for your continued partnership with the Richmond County School System, and we look forward to seeing our students every day in class.

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