



## Why Attendance Matters in Trenton Public Schools

pre-k and kindergarten students	elementary students	middle and high school students
 learn a new word or sound	 learn a new word, math skill, or science theory	 learn about a new, interesting topic
 learn a new math concept	 become independent and responsible	 connect with adults
 make new friends	 learn to work with others	 explore careers

**CHRONIC ABSENCE**


**18**  
ABSENCES IN A YEAR

*as few as 2 absences a month*

students who are chronically absent

-  struggle academically
-  are more likely to be held back
-  are more likely to drop out
-  are more likely to get in trouble with the law

## DEVELOPING GOOD attendance HABITS



-  **MAKE SCHOOL A PART OF YOUR FAMILY'S DAILY LIFE**  
Set routines that your family sticks to every day. Set times for waking up, doing homework, and going to bed. Check in with your child every day to ask about what happened at school.
-  **KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL**  
Keep in touch with your child's teacher and let your child's school know if he or she needs to miss school. And update your phone number or address if anything changes.
-  **HAVE A BACK-UP PLAN**  
Connect with other parents so that you have people you can reach out to for help (like needing help getting your child to or from school).
-  **KNOW YOUR STUFF**  
Know your school's attendance policy and what's being taught in the classroom.
-  **PLAN FOR THE YEAR**  
Schedule family vacations, medical check-ups, dental visits, and other appointments during school breaks or on the weekend whenever possible.
-  **WORK TOGETHER**  
If your child has to be absent from school, make sure to get a make-up packet from your child's teacher and help him or her complete the work.