***Did you know?***

- Attendance is an important part of being successful at school.

- Students who attend school regularly are more likely to graduate from high school and find good jobs.

- Studies show students who attend school 95% or more of the time do best.  Students who attend 90% or less of school days are at risk for not doing well in school, and for not graduating from high school.

# • **Target for success = 95% attendance**

- How many school days can you miss each year and stay on target for success?

    ➔ Look at the school year calendar.  Let's say you miss one school day per month on average.  Pick one school day in September and black it out.  Do this for all of the months in the school year.

    ➔ Count up all of the blacked out days for the school year- how many days would you have missed? _____

    ➔ With 165 school days in a year, if you miss an average of one day a month, your attendance rate will be:

    <u>155 days attended</u>　　　**=**　**94%** (very close to 95% target)
    165 days in school year

    ➔ What happens if you miss an average of 2 days each month?  Go ahead and black out one more day each month.  Now how many days would you have missed altogether? _____

➔ With 165 school days in a year, if you miss an average of two days a month, your attendance rate will be:

$$\frac{145 \text{ days attended}}{165 \text{ days in school year}} = \mathbf{88\%} \text{ (putting you at risk)}$$

➔ Did you know missing just 2 days a month on average is like missing an entire month of school? Look at the month of May on your calendar. Go ahead and black out 20 school days in May (the number of days you would miss if you missed 2 days a month). **It's an entire month of school!!!**

➔ What would happen if you missed 1 month of school every year from kindergarten through 12th grade?

Kindergarten=   1 month missed
1st grade=        1 month missed
2nd grade =      1 month missed
3rd grade =       1 month missed
4th grade =       1 month missed
5th grade =       1 month missed
6th grade =       1 month missed
7th grade =       1 month missed
8th grade =       1 month missed
9th grade =       1 month missed
10th grade =     1 month missed
11th grade =     1 month missed
12th grade =     1 month missed

**TOTAL = 13 months missed- or more than one year of school!!**

***We understand that there are times when missing school is necessary- like when you are really sick. At the same time, **it is important to attend school every day that you can to keep your attendance on target for success**.***