

Dear Parent: October 2021

Welcome back for the 2021-22 school year at College Park! I want to welcome you as our partner in your child’s education. We truly value, appreciate, and seek out your involvement and collaboration for the success of your child.

Once again, we are asking all parents to help us ensure the regular, on-time attendance of your children at school. We monitor attendance closely because research has shown that regular attendance is vital for the success of children in school.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

 Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.

 Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.

 By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.

 Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student’s academic success.

 Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.

 Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

California law states that absences are excused only if the child is ill or there is an excuse which meets the requirements of *Education Code* Section 48205. *Education Code* Section 48260 defines a truant as a pupil who has missed more than 30 minutes on three days without valid excuse in one school year. Our goal is to have all children present and on time in school every day.

Parents, please be aware that going “out of town” when school is in session with your child is an **unexcused** absence. Further, it is our district’s policy that we may require verification of absences due to illness or quarantine if your child has missed school for three consecutive days. Our attendance is greatly impacted in certain grade levels and if your child has unexcused absences, they may be disenrolled to make room for children who enroll.

We at College Park Elementary will work very hard with you to ensure that your child receives the best education possible. We are depending on you, and we want to thank you for entrusting us with your child. To provide your child with an outstanding education, your child must maintain excellent attendance.

On our website you will find a copy of this year’s school calendar to assist in your family’s scheduling. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at (949) 936-5550.

Sincerely,

Meg Gwyn, Principal