

## Too Sick for School?

One of the problems most often confronting parents of school age children occurs when a child complains of not feeling well on a school day. A decision must be made as to whether the child stays home or goes to school. How do you make the right decision? The following guidelines are provided to assist you in making the decision as to when your child should stay home from school:

- **Fever:** A child with a temperature over 100 degrees F should not go to school and should be kept home until fever-free for 12 hours.
- **Diarrhea, vomiting, and stomach ache:** A child with diarrhea or vomiting needs to stay home. A doctor should be consulted if diarrhea or vomiting continues for more than 24 hours. If your child has a stomachache, with no other symptoms it is OK to send them to school.
- **Cold, cough, sore throat:** A child with a bad cough or bad cold symptoms should stay home even though there may not be a fever associated with the illness. If your child complains of a scratchy, sore throat and has no other symptoms, he/she may go to school. If white spots can be seen in the back of the throat or if a fever is present, keep the child home and call your doctor.

Here's how you can improve your child's school attendance:

- **Make sure your child stays healthy by eating nutritious meals and snacks, getting enough sleep and exercise.**
- **Send your child to school each day even if they complain, unless they meet the criteria on the back for illness.**
- **Talk to your child about importance of attending school and why a good education is important.**
- **Support school rules and consequences for skipping class and being tardy.**
- **Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours.**
- **Show your child why education is important. Give specific examples of how education helps people succeed.**
- **Lead by example.**



# Student Attendance



Learning builds day by day.  
A child who misses a day  
of school misses a day of  
learning.

**Van Buren Attendance office  
743-7130**



# Attending School is the Law!

IF YOU KNOW YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT, PLEASE CALL YOUR SCHOOL'S ATTENDANCE OFFICE BEFORE THE SCHOOL DAY BEGINS  
VAN BUREN ATTENDANCE # 743-7130

Below are the laws and regulations for school attendance in Wisconsin.

## ABSENCES THAT DO NOT COUNT IN THE 10 DAYS

- A DEATH IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OR FUNERAL FOR CLOSE RELATIVE
- COURT OR LEGAL PROCEDURE REQUIRING STUDENT ATTENDANCE
- RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY
- WRITTEN MEDICAL EXCUSE
- SCHOOL ORDERED SUSPENSION
- WAIVER AUTHORIZED BY THE BUILDING PRINCIPAL.

According to School District Regulation 5141.1, there is a **10-day limit** for parental excused absences in a school year. After the limit is reached, all future absences during the school year will be considered unexcused unless they meet the exceptions listed on the left.

## Unnecessary absence from school may have a negative effect on a student's attitude, work habits and progress.

**Truancy- unexcused absences**  
Under State Law, any student is absent without an acceptable excuse part of all of five (5) or more days on which school is held during a school semester is considered a habitual truant.

State law also requires that parents/ guardians of truant students meet with the building administrator.

### Tardy

Elementary students who attend at least one hour before and one hour after lunch but miss part of the day up to an hour will be marked Tardy.

### Absent

A Student is marked absent when they attend less than one hour of school before lunch and/ or attend less than one hour after lunch. These absences need to be excused by a parent or they fall under unexcused absences and are counted toward habitual truancy.

## Attendance:

### *A Key to your child's success*

Your child's success in school depends on having a solid educational background- one that can only be gained through regular school attendance.

Research shows that children who are in school most of the time do better on state tests.

Being late for school hurts a child's learning, too. A student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year.



Sick children belong at home: Well children belong at school