



Attendance Expectations

Hello TEK family,

DID YOU KNOW?

- *Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.*
- *Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.*
- *Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.*
- *Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.*

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

I wanted to send out the expectations and procedures for attendance at Thomas E. Kerns Elementary School. We follow Greenville Country Schools district policy when it comes to attendance. Communication will go out by phone messages, written communications and blasts from Parent Backpack. It is vital that you join and update your parent backpack so that you will receive the most current and up to date information.

Parents are allowed 10 parent notes in a school year. These notes are for student illness, when a trip to the doctor is not necessary, or when a family member, who is in charge of getting the student to school, is sick and unable to do so. The note should include the student's name, teacher's name, date of absence, and parent name. The parent note must be turned in within 2 days of the student's return to school.

If the student is absent due to a medical reason and has been seen by a healthcare provider, a note must be sent in when the student returns to school. All other reasons for a student's absence must be approved by the Principal in order to be excused.

All tardies and early dismissals must be followed by a note from a healthcare provider in order to be marked excused. If your student has multiple unexcused tardies or early dismissals, you will have to meet with the Attendance Team in order to set up a plan to eliminate the absences.

A student is considered truant if they have 3 or more unexcused absences. A mandatory meeting will have to take place with the Attendance Team or Principal in order to devise a plan to help the student be on time each day. We are here to partner with you to help your child be successful.

Tia Ginter,

Attendance Clerk