



September 2016 Parent Newsletter

www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student

School Attendance/Parent-Teacher Conferences

Research shows that attendance has a direct impact on student achievement. Help your child stay on track to achieve his or her year-end goals by making attendance a priority in your household. Sit down as a family and set an attendance goal for the year.

Parent-teacher conferences are good opportunities to discuss attendance and student goals with your child's teacher. Take the opportunity to discuss other ways you can communicate with your child's teacher throughout the school year.

As you prepare for your first parent-teacher conference of the school year, consider asking yourself or your child's teacher the following questions.

- What is my child's school attendance policy?
- How does missing school impact my child's learning?
- If my child has to miss a day of school, how can my child catch up?
- Why is attending parent-teacher conferences important?
- What can I do to help my child accomplish goals in the classroom?
- What can I do at home to help my child meet progress goals?
- What do I need to know about Academic Improvement Plans (AIP)?

National Preparedness Month

Being prepared for an emergency is important at school and at home. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention provides information to help you be prepared for an emergency: <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/BeReady/index.html>. Once you create a plan, go over the details with your family. Be sure to practice how you would respond.

When planning for an emergency at your home or at your child's school, consider the following questions.

- How do I create an emergency plan for my family?
- What information does my child need to know in case there is an emergency while at home?
- What medical information does my child's school need to know in case my child gets sick at school?
- How do I find out information about my child if there is an emergency at school?
- Where should I pick up my child if my child's school closes early?

The American Red Cross and FEMA have provided additional emergency preparedness information at http://www.redcross.org/images/MEDIA_CustomProductCatalog/m4440181_Food_and_Water-English.revised_7-09.pdf.