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BHSD Voices - Attendance: Every Day Counts

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Hello, this is Sean Gallagher — Superintendent of Brookings-Harbor School District here to talk about the importance of daily attendance for our students.

Teachers can't teach students who aren't in school. One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: go to school every day.

Why? Students with regular attendance are more likely to do well in school and graduate on time. For example, missing even two days of school in a month can create serious gaps in understanding math at any age. In addition, middle and high school students who miss too many days fail classes and are unlikely to graduate. Did you know that a student who is absent just two days a month misses an equivalent of nearly one and a half years of their schooling over their school career!

Students who miss 10 percent or more of school days in an academic calendar year, for any reason, including excused, unexcused or disciplinary action such as in-school suspension, are considered chronically absent in the state of Oregon. Both statewide and locally the rate of chronic absenteeism is high -- about 20 percent in Oregon and 24 percent in our local schools last year.

This issue is not solely about older students cutting class, absences matter even at early ages. Research shows that too many absences in early grades can result in an inability to read at grade-level by third grade.

Here at Brookings-Harbor School District we believe that "Every Student Can Succeed" and it begins with regular school attendance.. We need your help. Regular check-in's with the students in your life will help to ensure they are attending class. Also, create a family plan for your child to get to school every single day and on time. Because every Day Counts!
