



# Keep Your Child on Track in Middle & High School:

## Pay Attention to Attendance

### DID YOU KNOW?

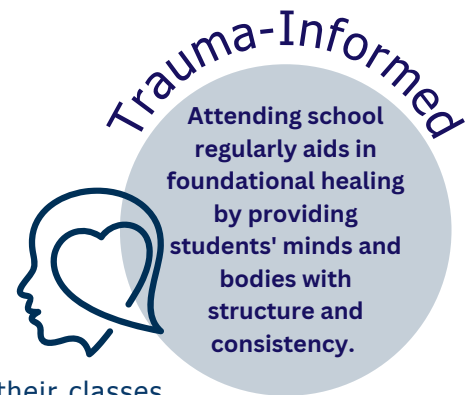
Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a keep role in making sure students access and participate in learning opportunities.

- Missing 10%, or about two days each month over the course of a school year, can affect a student's academic success.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, or facing some other difficulty.
- By sixth grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

### COMMUNICATE WITH THE SCHOOL

- Contact your student's teachers and let them know how to reach you.
- Request a schedule of classes and login information for your student.
- Ask for help from school staff if you are having trouble getting online.
- Know the school's attendance policy and the consequences for absences.
- Check on your student's progress to make sure they are participating in all their classes.



### MAKE SCHOOL PARTICIPATION A PRIORITY

- Talk about the importance of participating in school every day so your teen knows this is your expectation.
- Encourage your student to maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework or getting a good night's sleep.
- Post your student's class schedule and login information in a visible location.
- Identify a quiet place for your student to participate in class and do school work.

### HELP YOUR CHILD STAY HEALTHY AND ENGAGED

- Check-in weekly about your student's academic progress and seek help from teachers.
- Stay on top of your teen's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping class/work. Teens who have a hard time making friends can feel isolated.
- If your teen seems disengaged, have a conversation to try to understand what's bothering them and why they are avoiding school. Reach out to teachers or support staff to discuss your student's challenges, identify what can help your child, and develop a plan.

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