

September 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you know, school attendance is vital to the growth and development of every student academically and to their overall well-being. Our school board is committed in supporting parents and students in efforts to achieve this success.

Your child/ren's school is dedicated to helping your son or daughter develop the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social and physical capabilities to live fully and to meet the future challenges of adult roles and responsibilities. The school can best contribute to your child/ren's education and development when you form a partnership with them.

Although at times absences cannot be avoided, our Board would like to recommend that where possible, students do not miss extensive amounts of instructional time (i.e., extended vacations, etc.).

As parents you have many responsibilities towards your child/ren. One responsibility is to ensure that your child/ren is in school every day, ready to learn. In fact, it is the law. The **Ontario Education Act** states that every *child between the ages of 6 and 18 years is required to attend school every day* from the first school day in September until the last school day in June.

We appreciate and value the partnership we have with parents working collaboratively to keep your child/ren in school. Our joint efforts in supporting your child/ren's regular attendance will assist in ensuring their academic success and wellbeing through their educational journey.

Strategies to support regular attendance can be obtained through your child/ren's school social worker.

Together, we can achieve academic success for your child/ren.

"Every School Day Counts"



P. Codner, MSW, RSW
Chief Social Worker