

CONVERSATION  
WITH THE  
COUNSELORS

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1ST WEDNESDAY OF  
EACH MONTH

7:00AM-7:30AM

IN THE CARLINE

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MEET AND GREET WITH  
THE COUNSELORS AS  
YOU DROP OFF YOUR  
CHILD FOR SCHOOL

IMPORTANT  
UPCOMING DATES

Block 11/19 &  
Schedule 11/20

School 11/26-  
Holidays 11/28

Block 12/10 &  
Schedule 12/11

School 12/22-  
Holidays 1/05

## Attendance

Why don't some children want to attend school? Here are a few reasons they've told us: they viewed class as boring and irrelevant, found classes not challenging enough, couldn't keep up with schoolwork, were

suspended too often, were scared or didn't feel safe, didn't have positive relationships with teachers or peers, and couldn't go to work and school at the same time. Following are several strategies for both parents and teachers

to utilize in an attempt to keep our children in school.



## Strategies to Help Attendance

1. Adults must role model good attendance. Children need to see adults in their homes getting up and going to work on a regular basis. Children need to know that adults may lose their jobs if they miss too many days of work.
2. Parents need to keep regular, consistent schedules at home. This includes having children going to bed and getting up at the same time, having set homework schedules, and planned exercise and playtime.
3. Examine transportation issues. Some children have fears about riding the bus. Older bus riders may tease or bully younger children. Also, some children are very sensitive to the "loudness" of being on a bus.



## Guidance & Counseling

*Embrace each child for their unique qualities.*

*Encourage learning through experience.*

*To Empower for excellence in every area of life.*

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*A recent University of Minnesota study found attendance to be a better predictor of test scores than poverty. Those with 93% attendance aced the standard test. Those who attended only 85% found scores plummeting.*

*- David Murray, UPI*

### Recommended Resources

-Mustang, the Little Do Who was Afraid to go to School

-Motivating Students Who Don't Care



## Attendance Strategies (continued)

4. When a child doesn't want to go to school, do not assume it is a school issue. It could be a home issue. The "real" reason students may not want to go to school might be because they want to be home with younger siblings who are having a lot of fun with mom.
5. Is the child struggling academically? If the child got tutoring and extra help with his math, would they be more willing to go to school each day?
6. Does the child avoid school because others are teasing or bullying them? If this is the case, parents need to address it by contacting the school.
7. Behavior modification interventions often help. At home parents can keep a chart on the wall and each day the child attends school, he gets a sticker. A certain number of stickers can earn the child a small privilege.
8. Keep the school nurse updated on children who are absent.
9. Encourage students to get involved in extra-curricular activities. Attendance usually improves once a student becomes a member of the band or cheerleading team.

