



Attendance Works

Advancing Student Success By Reducing Chronic Absence

► **Our Message To You...**

- School is your first and most important "job." You are learning about more than math and reading. You are learning how to report to "work" on time every day so that when you graduate and get a job, you will know how to show up for work on time every day.
- It is easy to say it will be different with a real job because you are getting paid, but the reality is that attendance and punctuality is a learned habit and studies show attendance at school often mirrors attendance to college or a job. Now is the time to establish habits that will follow you through high school and beyond and increase your chances of success.

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► **Did You Know?**

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than any 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 16 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they are only missing a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance and punctuality are important life skills that will help you graduate from college and keep a job.

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► **Our Message To You...**

- When you are not here, we notice because we care and we want you to be successful.
- School only gets harder when you are absent. Sometimes it's tempting to stay home because you get overwhelmed but continuing to miss only makes it worse. We are here to help you get back on track!
- Make school attendance a priority by showing up to school everyday and putting forth your best effort when you are here. That is our expectation for every student at GMS!

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► **Did You Know?**

- A student who misses 10 days or more during a school year is 20 percent less likely to graduate from high school and 25 percent less likely to ever enroll in college.
- Students who attend school regularly are more likely to graduate and find good jobs. In fact, a high school graduate makes, on average, \$1 million more than a dropout over a lifetime.
- Chronic absence can affect your ability to earn a living. Dropouts are less likely to succeed in a career, and even those who graduate won't do well at work without good attendance habits.
- Nearly 80 percent of people in prison lack a high school diploma.

GMS Attendance Data

It Might Surprise You to Know...

<p>GMS Absences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Of the 426 students currently enrolled at GMS, 67 of you missed 10-15 days of school last year. ► Of the 426 students currently enrolled at GMS, 30 of you missed 16-30 days of school last year. ► Of the 426 students currently enrolled at GMS, 6 of you missed 31+ days of school last year. 	<p>GMS Tardies to School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► During the 2016-2017 school year, 55 students accumulated a total of 144 tardies to Pride Time and served nearly 300 hours of Saturday Detention.
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Attendance Matters!

Attendance is an important factor in school success – and beyond – for students. We at GMS are committed to improving attendance and reducing chronic absences of our students by taking steps to ensure students are attending school more regularly.

For the 2017-18 school year, our goal is to reduce the number of absences and tardies by 25 percent.




Pride Time Attendance Incentive Program

How It Works

To have some fun and to provide a visual of your progress – and the progress of all the other Pride Times – for every point earned each day, the Pride Time can add that many pieces to their Potato Head.

NOTE: The "potato" is always Point #1. Because there are only 12 or 13 parts to each Potato Head, the class can get creative to get their Potato Head to 15.



Pride Time Attendance Incentive Program



In recognition of National Attendance Awareness Month, we are kicking off a Pride Time incentive on Monday, September 18, as one effort to reduce absences and tardies.

With the help of Mr. – or Mrs. – Potato Head, each Pride Time will track overall attendance to earn incentives.

Our hope is that students will motivate each other in a positive way to come to school every day by providing support and encouragement in overcoming those obstacles that create absences.



Pride Time Attendance Incentive Program

How It Works

When a Pride Time reaches 15 points, a "reward" is earned the next day – then the Pride Time starts all over again to earn a second "reward" – and each time the points start over, that class is challenged to earn the 15 points faster than the previous time.

After four weeks, the Pride Time that demonstrates the best attendance will receive donuts to celebrate.




Pride Time Attendance Incentive Program

How It Works

Every Pride Time has the opportunity to earn up to 4 points per day.

- 0 Absences/Tardies = 4 Points
- 1 Absence or 1 Tardy = 3 Points
- 2 Absences and/or Tardies = 1 Point

Every time a Pride Time earns 15 points, there will be a "reward" to celebrate GREAT ATTENDANCE!




Pride Time Attendance Incentive Program

Rewards/Incentives

- 1st Time Earning 15 Points = One day of music in PT
- 2nd Time Earning 15 Points = One day of social time in PT
- 3rd Time Earning 15 Points = Free Pride Time in Gym
- 4th Time Earning 15 Points = Pride Time Choice





Pride Time Attendance Incentive Program

Rewards/Incentives

After four (4) weeks of tallying points and earning incentives, the two (2) Pride Times with the overall best attendance will enjoy donuts during Pride Time.

After four (4) weeks we will make earning points more challenging and seek input from students on the incentives.

If we meet or exceed our goal of improving attendance and tardies by 20 percent by the end of the year, we will celebrate with a school-wide activity yet to be determined.



Attendance Matters!

Remember...we want each of you here – on time – every single day if possible because we know it puts you in the best position for success now and in the future and we want all of you to succeed!