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Dear Parents, Community Members, and Students,

It is hard to believe that this school year is going by so quickly. With that being said, the end of October we will be nearing the half-way point of the first semester. If your student is struggling, with any of their classes please contact their teacher, their counselor, or the administration for assistance. Teachers are available to help in any way possible if arrangements are made ahead of time.

As always, it is critical to communicate with your student about their challenges at school. Please regularly check in with our teachers and administration to be kept informed about your students success in the classroom. If you are interested in the ability to check your child's progress online contact me in the office and I will assign you a username and password. A regular check of Gradebook will keep you up to date about missing or late assignments or upcoming tests or projects. It also allows you to quickly email your child's teacher with questions or concerns.

It's important that you as parents get your children to school as much as possible. We have been very fortunate, in that our average number of days absent is below the state average and has been dropping over the last two years. Chronic absenteeism- or missing 10 percent or more of school days for any reason- is a proven early warning sign of academic risk and school dropout.

- A student who misses just 2 days of school each month- 18 days total in the year- is considered to be chronically absent.
- New research released by the Ad Council found that an overwhelming majority (86%) of parents understand their child's school attendance plays a big role in helping them graduate from high school.
- However, nearly half (49%) of parents believe that it is okay for their children to miss 3 or more days of school per month- and that they won't fall behind academically if they do.
- Nationwide, nearly 10 percent of kindergartners and 1st graders are chronically absent.

To graduate college and be career ready, students need to successfully navigate several key transitions and acquire a set of academic behaviors. In short, they need to learn how to succeed at school. Students signal that they are on or off the track towards these outcomes through their attendance, behavior, and course performance. Please, help your children succeed and make sure that they are at school as much as possible.

Thank you for all of your support! Proud to be a Donkey!

James Vines

Bray-Doyle High School