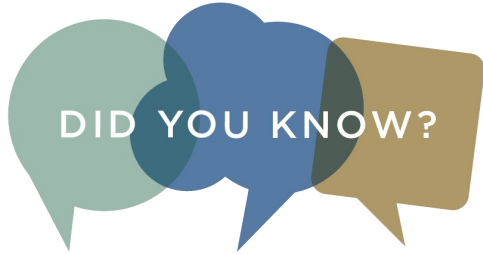




# ATTENDANCE & ABSENTEEISM: QUICK FACTS & TIPS



## 2. DCPS HAS A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POLICIES PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

- Parents/guardians have 5 days after a student returns from an absence to turn in a note in order for the absence to be excused.
- NEW: Parents/guardians must provide a note from a doctor for all absences after the fourth absence within a term.
- DCPS follows DC laws regarding excusing absences. Only certain absences can be legally excused. For more information regarding what absences can be excused, please visit <https://dcps.dc.gov/attendance>
- You can visit [eliotioneattendance@gmail.com](mailto:eliotioneattendance@gmail.com) to scan and submit doctor's notes or to send parent excuse notes.



## 1. START THE YEAR OFF STRONG!

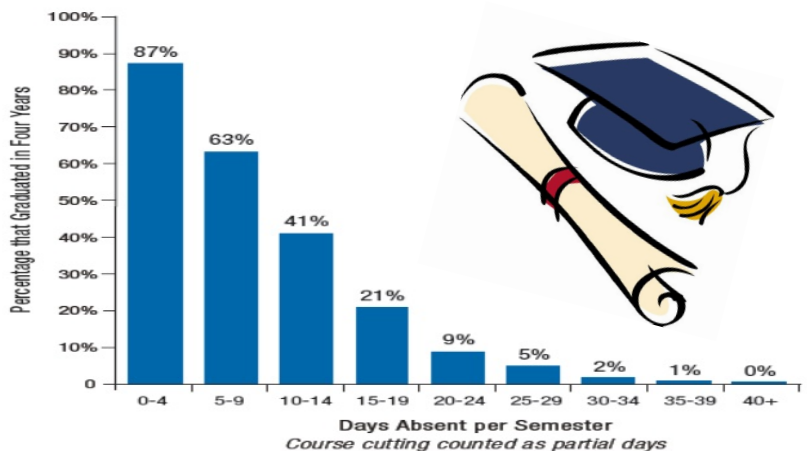
Absenteeism in the first month of school indicates a likelihood of poor attendance throughout the school year. **Half of the students who miss two to four days in September will miss nearly a month of school.** Help us celebrate Attendance Awareness Month by getting off to a good start!

## CHRONICALLY ABSENT = 18+ ABSENCES A YEAR

If your child misses just **two days of school a month** (one day every other week), your child will be considered chronically absent by the end of the year, after missing 18 days of school and over **100 hours of instruction.**

## 3. ATTENDANCE IS AN INDICATOR OF DROPOUT

By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school. Attendance is a **better predictor of high school drop out than 8th grade standardized test scores.**



**Note: DC Law: Students who miss more than 20% of their class periods (1 of 4, 2 of 5, etc.) will be marked absent for the day.**

## 4. IT IS OUR GOAL IS TO NOTIFY AND SUPPORT YOU

### NOTIFYING:

DCPS wants to keep you informed if we become concerned about your child's attendance. We try communicating with parents/guardians by letters and phone calls, and sometimes by asking to meet in person. If we have trouble getting in touch, we may perform a home visit to ensure you are aware of our concern. **Please keep us informed of any changes in your contact information so we can keep you in the loop.**

### SUPPORTING:

We know that a lot of the time, students just miss school due to being sick. **We also know that sometimes, the reasons for attendance issues can be complex.** Our dedicated staff will work to support you in identifying and overcoming any barriers that make it difficult for your child to attend school regularly. If you are facing a hardship and need support, please contact your school's attendance staff so we can do our best to help you.

Eliot-Hine Middle School

1830 Constitution Ave., NE, Washington DC, 20002

<https://dcps.dc.gov/attendance>