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Dear Pettisville Families,

At Pettisville Schools, we know that regular attendance is one of the most important factors in a student's success. Being present in school helps students stay connected to their learning, build relationships with teachers and peers, and develop the habits that lead to long-term success.

Ohio's updated attendance laws place a greater emphasis on identifying and supporting students who may be at risk of becoming chronically absent. Rather than focusing solely on truancy, schools are encouraged to work alongside families to remove barriers and improve attendance. Here are a few important attendance reminders and changes to be aware of for the upcoming school year:

- Parents should report student absences by 8:20 a.m. by calling (419) 446-2705 or emailing dgraber@pettisvilleschools.org.
- Students may be excused for illness, medical appointments, family emergencies, religious observances, military family-related absences, county fair participation, and other circumstances outlined in district policy.
- Ohio now defines chronic absence as missing 10% or more of the school year for any reason. This includes excused absences, unexcused absences, medical absences, and suspensions. Once the 10% marker is hit, the student will be placed on an Absence Intervention Plan, and the Fulton County Truancy Officer will be informed.

To help families stay informed:

- Families will receive a notification when a student reaches 5% of missed instructional time.
- Families will receive an additional notification when a student reaches 10% of missed instructional time, along with information regarding the Attendance Intervention Plan.
- School staff may offer resources, support services, or attendance planning meetings to help improve attendance when needed.

Our goal is not to penalize students or families. Our goal is to partner with you to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed through regular attendance and engagement in school. If you have questions regarding attendance procedures or would like assistance addressing attendance concerns, please contact your respective principal.

Thank you for your partnership and your continued support of Pettisville Schools.

Sincerely,

Pettisville Administration

