# East Moriches Union Free School District <br> Attendance Summary: Grades K-8 

- In New York State, school attendance is mandatory for all children ages 6-16.
- Regular school attendance is important for students to meet academic demands as well as to grow academically, socially and emotionally.
- Students who miss class time due to excessive absences, latenesses and/or early dismissals may have difficulty keeping up with their peers academically, while also struggling to meet grade-level learning standards and develop social skills.
- In addition, multiple studies have shown that satisfactory attendance in middle school is the greatest indicator of high school success and graduation.
- If your child is going to be absent, parents/guardians must notify the school of their child's absence.
- Please call the main office (ext. 600 at the middle school or ext. 200 at the elementary school) the morning of your child's absence or within 24 hours of the absence.
- In addition, please provide the main office with a written excuse for the absence upon your child's return to school.
- Chronic Absenteeism is defined by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) as missing at least $10 \%$ of enrolled school days in a year for any reason- excused or unexcused.
- Our school calendar has 182 school days and thus students who are chronically absent are identified as missing 18 or more school days.
- Attendance letters are sent home from the main office once a child reaches 9 or more absences.
- Attendance meetings with the principal, guidance counselor and, if necessary, your child's teacher(s) will be scheduled once a child is absent 15 or more times.
- Arriving at school on-time is an important component to a child's successful school day. To promote this good practice, the middle school has a lateness policy that assigns students a detention if they are late to school 3 or more times.

If you have any questions or concerns about any information contained in this summary, please feel free to contact the main office of your child's school.


