

# Working Together to Ensure Your Child's Success



## Did You Know?

- Students of any age who miss just two days of school a month (or 17 days a year) are more likely to fall behind and less likely to graduate.
- It doesn't matter if the absences are excused or unexcused, or if they are occasional or all in a row.
- School attendance matters even for young children. Children who miss too many days in kindergarten or first grade can struggle in learning how to read.



**Some absences are unavoidable, but others can be prevented.  
Help for your family is available.**

**Check with your child's school to see how your child is doing and to get support.**

In addition to teachers, people who can help include:

- School Counselors
- SUN Community School Site Managers
- School Based Health Centers and County Health Clinics—The 13 School-Based Health Centers are full-services clinics that serve all students in Multnomah County. [www.multco.us/SBHC](http://www.multco.us/SBHC)

**Visit these websites for more information on how to support your child**

[www.multco.us/sun/attendance](http://www.multco.us/sun/attendance)

[www.absencesaddup.org](http://www.absencesaddup.org)



## Steps You Can Take to Ensure Success

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Share ideas with other parents for leaving for school on time
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up
- Get health care from a School-Based Health Center to minimize time out of class.
- Ask family members, neighbors or other parents to help if you need assistance dropping off or picking a child up
- If possible, schedule medical appointments for days school isn't in session
- If your child is anxious about starting or attending school, talk with the principal, director, teacher, doctor or other parents for advice.



## When to Keep Your Child Home Sick

Your child should stay home if s/he:

- Has a temperature, without medicine, higher than 100.5 degrees
- Is throwing up or has diarrhea
- Has pink and crusty eyes

