

Attendance Matters!
Must be present to learn



High School dropouts earn an average of:

\$7,000 less than HS Graduates*
\$14,000 less than A.S. Degree*
\$27,000 less than B.A. Degree*

**75% of state prison inmates
are dropouts***

**Dropping out increases odds of arrest
during a lifetime by over 350%***

**Male/female students with low academic
achievement are twice as likely to
become parents by their senior year***

*Lucio, Robert, Developing a School Social Work
Model for Predicting Academic Risk: School
Factors and Academic Achievement" (2008))*

District School Board of Pasco County

Kurt S. Browning
Superintendent of Schools

Pasco County School Board Members

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District 1

Joanne Hurley
District 2

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District 4

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DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY

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District School Board of Pasco County

Secondary Attendance Counts



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Did You Know?

Law requires regular school attendance

Section 1003.21 (1)(a), Florida Statutes

All children who have attained the age of 6 years or who will have attained the age of 6 years by February 1 of any school year or who are older than 6 years of age but who have not attained the age of 16 years, except as otherwise provided, are required to attend school regularly during the entire school term.

Failure to have your child attend school regularly, could result in a parent:

- Losing cash assistance.
- Needing to continue to support your child due to his inability to earn enough to support himself.

And could result in your child:

- **NOT being able to get a driver's license**
- Being brought to court
- Being placed in shelter for up to 30 days

Failure to attend school regularly, could result in a student experiencing:

- Academic failure
- Social isolation/disconnection
- Low self esteem
- Confusion, anger, anxiety
- Disengagement with school
- Diminished motivation

What you can do:

- Take an active role – stay involved.
- Talk to your child – identify potential sources of student anxiety (related to school, friends, other).
- Keep updated on school events and announcements. Go to the school's website and sign up for an eSembler account.
- Help get your child to school on time and stay in school from bell to bell every day.
- Schedule family events and vacations with your child's school calendar in mind.
- Limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to medical appointments or illness. Try to arrange around the school day.
- Promote good health.

If you need assistance or referrals to resources, contact your school's Student Services support staff (School Counselor, School Social Worker, School Nurse or School Psychologist).

Why regular school attendance is important for your children and your family:

- It's the LAW
- Closely links to academic success
- Develops positive employability traits:
Work Ethic
Relationship Skills
- Helps reduce negative behaviors:
Social Isolation
Drugs/Alcohol
Teenage Pregnancy
Criminal Activity
- Helps prevent school drop out

Patterns of nonattendance and truancy are considered **early warning signs** of academic failure, behavior problems, and social isolation. Students who are chronically absent in any year between 8th and 12th grade are 7.4 times more likely to drop out.

For more research on the impact of truancy visit www.attendanceworks.org

We care about your child's success and want to work as partners to ensure that your child's education is a positive one.
