

**FERNDALE AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS**

*Students who attend school regularly and establish good attendance habits in the early grades are more likely to succeed academically and graduate from high school. Regular attendance is a key factor to success. Research shows that children who are in school regularly do better on state assessments. The reverse of this is also true. The more days missed, the lower the student's assessment scores. Being late for school also impacts your child's learning. A student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the school year.*

*School districts and students who attend public school in Pennsylvania are required to comply with the Pennsylvania Department of Education attendance law. Parents are to be aware of the laws and are responsible for attendance of minors. School districts are required to monitor attendance, account for student absence and prosecute those who violate the law. Your child's success in school depends upon a solid educational background. **This background can only be gained through regular school attendance.***

**Reasons for absences** are student illness, death in the family, impassable roads and quarantine. All other absences are considered unexcused/illegal.

**\*\*All absences are to be verified by a written excuse from the parent on the day the student returns to school. The excuse should include the student's name, date(s) of absence and the reason for the absence. All absences will be marked unexcused/illegal if the excuse is not received upon day of return.\*\***

**\*\*Parents are required to submit a doctor's excuse for any absences beyond 10 days during the school year or the absence is unexcused/illegal.\*\***

**After three unexcused absences**, the district is required to file charges with the district magistrate. Parents will be notified of attendance on the student's report card and when the parent is in jeopardy of prosecution due to violation of the law.

**Continued tardiness** without a doctor's excuse is unexcused/illegal.

***Students are not expected to come to school when they are sick. The law is generous in the number of allowable days for "normal childhood illnesses." It is in the best interest of the child to have them in school regularly and on time. We appreciate your cooperation in helping your child be successful in school by attending regularly.***

Dr. William Brotz  
Elementary Principal