

**Important January
Dates:**

10: PTO Meeting
6:30 p.m.

15: No School due to
Martin Luther King,
Jr. Day

18: School Board Meet-
ing 7 p.m.

What's Happening

DC Elementary Newsletter



JANUARY 2018



Roller Skating

Students in 1st through 8th grade have the opportunity to skate at school

February 5th through 9th. An informational sheet and permission slip has been sent home. Please return the slip with the \$9 rental fee on or before Friday, January 5th.

Safe and Unsafe Touch & Teen Dating Violence Awareness Instruction

Patricia Snowden from WIRC-CAA Victim Services in Macomb will present three lessons to children in PreK-8th grade on Safe and Unsafe Touch and 6th-8th grade on Teen Dating Violence Awareness. The sessions will take place during PE class. Please see the attached letter regarding the lessons and return the bottom portion to school a.s.a.p.



Wintry Weather School Cancellation

We will make every effort to ensure the safety of our students and staff when winter weather occurs. That means we may have to cancel

school or school related activities and events. During the course of the day weather conditions may change or an emergency situation may arise forcing school to be dismissed early. As soon as a decision is made to close school, announcements will be broadcast on the local radio and TV stations and through our all-call system. In the event that school is cancelled the cancellation will be announced at approximately 6 a.m. on local radio and TV stations. When possible it will be announced at 10 p.m. the night before. **Please be sure your family has a plan should a school closing arise.** Your child should know of your plans. Also please ensure we have up to date contact information including phone numbers and email contacts should we need to reach you and/or notify you with an all-call.

Attendance Matters

According to multiple studies, missing several days of school significantly reduces the likelihood that students will graduate from high school. With attendance a crucial factor to keeping kids on the right path to graduation, Attendance Works has substantial information on attendance and the impact on student achievement. Below is some of the research below on why attendance matters.



Start Strong

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict frequent absences later in the school year. Nearly half of all students that missed more than two days of school in September went on to miss almost a month of school.

Chronic Absences

An estimated 5 to 7.5 million students in the United States miss almost a month of school every year. This adds up to over a year missed by the time of graduation.

Early Absences Lead to Attendance Issues in Later Grades

Absenteeism starts early. One in 10 kindergarteners and first graders are considered to be —chronically absent. Research shows students who miss 10 percent of school, or two days per month, show negative academic progress. In some schools, that adds up to 18 days a school year and is considered to be chronic absence.

Third Grade Reading Level

Poor attendance can keep children from reading proficiently by the end of third grade, which is shown to negatively affect their chances of graduating on time.

Dropout Indicator

By sixth grade, a chronically absent student is shown to have a significantly higher chance of dropping out of high school.

Excused Absences Hurt Too

Excused absences are just as negative as unexcused ones.

Every Minute Matters

If a student is 10 minutes late to school each day, this adds up to missing more than 33 hours of class time. A student with a 90 percent attendance average for Kindergarten through 12th grade will miss over a year of accumulated time in the classroom.

See more research on the importance of attendance here:

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/research/>