



PANTHER PRESENCE

Prowling for Excellent Attendance

October 2024

North Country FSCS: Families, Students, Communities, and Schools



Welcome to Belleville Henderson Central School District's monthly attendance newsletter. It is our goal to support families and educate the community on the importance of school attendance.

The website called **Attendance Works** researches attendance and provides free resources to schools and families. The figure below from the www.attendanceworks.org website describes common reasons for absences that typically fall into four broad categories.

If your child is showing any of these signs, please know that BHCS D teachers, staff, and administrators want to support you and your child. Please call us (315-846-5121), send us an email, or come in. We are here for you.

Barriers	Aversion	Disengagement	Misconceptions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic and acute illness Family responsibilities or home situation Trauma Poor transportation Housing and food insecurity Inequitable access to needed services System involvement Lack of predictable schedules for learning Lack of access to tech Community violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Struggling academically and/or behaviorally Unwelcoming school climate Social and peer challenges Anxiety Biased disciplinary and suspension practices Undiagnosed disability and/or disability accommodations Caregivers had negative educational experiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of challenging, culturally responsive instruction Bored No meaningful relationships to adults in the school (especially given staff shortages) Lack of enrichment opportunities Lack of academic and behavioral support Failure to earn credits Need to work conflicts with being in high school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absences are only a problem if they are unexcused Missing 2 days per month doesn't affect learning Lose track and underestimate TOTAL absences Assume students must stay home for any symptom of illness Attendance only matters in the older grades Suspensions don't count as absence

Daily Attendance for September 3–September 30, 2024

Elementary K–5

Daily Attendance Average %

K: 97.00%	3rd: 94.75%
1st: 96.325%	4th: 96.88%
2nd: 98.38%	5th: 93.40%

Secondary 6–12

Daily Attendance Average %

6th: 96.29%	9th: 92.94%	11th: 95.63%
7th: 92.68%	10th: 93.18%	12th: 97.58%
8th: 95.32%		

What we are doing at school:

- Teachers are closely monitoring attendance and notifying administrators of concerns
- Teachers, counselors, and administrators are checking-in with students and families
- After-school programs are taking place in K–5
- After-school clubs and programs are also now happening for students in grades 6–12

We have been in school for 20 days!

How many days has your child been absent?

If you answered 2 or more days, your child has already lost 10% (or more) of learning time.

"We can't always solve our teen's problems--so how do we help?"

- (Hint: 3 easy ways!)
- Click above to learn more from *Lisa D'Amour*, an expert on the teenage years and contributor to the movie "Inside Out 2"
- Click on the book to get more tips for your teens and almost-teens

