
SEPTEMBER 2018
LETTER TO PARENTS

As the new school year begins, we are excited about our buildings once again being filled with students – their energy, optimism and zest for life. We love and value our students and believe it is a privilege to be a public educator. At this time of year, we are reminded: our children are the most precious resource in the Crook County community.

I am inspired and amused by quotes. Here's one attributed to Woody Allen: *"90% of success in life is showing up"*. I agree! This is definitely true about the new school year. The school year often starts with a great deal of clatter, roaring and enthusiasm, much like the launch of a powerful rocket headed for an out-of-this-world destination. As the days pass, showing up can become mundane. Attendance can be like the coffee mug quote, *"Life is just so daily"*. The daily consistency of showing up at school can make a significant impact on a child's success throughout life. There is a *direct correlation* between consistent attendance and student achievement. The students who show up daily, establishing higher attendance rates, have a much greater chance of not only academic success, but also long-term life success. Perhaps it stems from the productive habit established early in life of *"showing up"*!

Regular attendance, in spite of the daily grind, must become a habit for success, beginning in Kindergarten and continuing through graduation. It turns out, regular attendance matters. We all feel like playing hooky now and then – but success depends on pushing through and showing up. Absenteeism leaves students struggling to read proficiently by third grade and more likely to drop out of high school, which in turn, limits opportunities and advances. Who knew Woody Allen was such a genius! Showing up IS 90% of success!

We all need to work together for our wonderful children, young ladies and men. Therefore, those of us who serve you and your child at CCSD make this promise to you: If you ensure the *"show up"* part of the bargain and *strive to have your student(s) miss fewer than 15 days of school in a whole year* – we promise to provide everything needed to ensure every student reaches a high level of success!

Thank you for the privilege of educating your child. Thank you for making our days meaningful and placing a high priority on education and attendance. Have an amazing 2018-19 school year.

Warmest regards,



Sara