



PEACE WAPITI PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

HERE FOR ME. HERE FOR YOU.

Working together to improve student attendance.

MAY



Did you know?

Students should miss **no more than nine days** of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.

By Grade 6, **absenteeism is one of three signs** that a student may drop out of high school.

By Grade 9, **regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates** than Grade 8 test scores.

Students can be chronically absent even **if they only miss a day or two** every few weeks.

Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.



You've got this! Pushing through to the end of the year

As the spring days grow longer, it's easy to give in to your child's pleas to stay up an hour or so longer. However, we all know it's a different story when morning rolls around. Likewise, with better weather comes the temptation to extend a two-day weekend at the lake or a trip to Edmonton to three or four days.

Children learn first at home, and parents who set a strong example of showing up every day and adhering to a regular schedule will instill important values for later on in the world of work. We extend congratulations and best wishes to families who will be celebrating high school graduations very soon – you made it!

With approximately 40 school days until the last day of classes, why not set a goal for your family to achieve perfect attendance in May and June?

Thanks for reading PWPSD's attendance newsletter this school year. Hang in there, parents – summer will be here before we know it!

Tips for keeping your child focused until the end of the school year

1. Post the May and June calendars on the fridge and ask your children to cross off each school day.
2. Encourage meaningful after school activities, including sports and clubs.
3. Maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
4. Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in your child's desire to attend school.

Resource: Attendance Works, www.attendanceworks.org

What the research says:

Absenteeism is a problem hidden in plain sight

This study confirms that districts and schools may fail to detect high levels of chronic absence because the problem is easily masked by average daily attendance (ADA), one of the most commonly calculated attendance measures. While many educators assume a 95 per cent ADA rate indicates good attendance, the authors find that this is often not the case.

[Chronic Elementary Absenteeism: A Problem Hidden in Plain Sight](#)



MAY 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May 18: Victoria Day Holiday

JUNE 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

CSW Days (green): At participating schools.

June 26: Last day for staff and students.