



PEACE WAPITI PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

# HERE FOR ME. HERE FOR YOU.

Working together to improve student attendance.

SEPTEMBER



PWPSD

## How absences add up over time

Missing 10 per cent or more of school days due to absence for any reason – excused, unexcused absences, and suspensions – can add up over time.

### By Grade 3:

Student is at risk in reading and numeracy development.

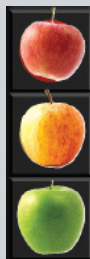
### By Grade 6:

Student is at risk of failing subjects.

### By Grade 9:

Student is at risk of dropping out.

## As a parent, when should I become concerned?



**CRITICAL**  
18 or more days

**CONCERNING**  
5-9 days

**SATISFACTORY**  
Less than 5 days

\* per school year.



## What is *Here For Me, Here For You* about?

This year, Peace Wapiti Public School Division (PWPSD) is continuing its attendance practices to help increase regular attendance at school and look at how absenteeism impacts student development.

### A three-tiered approach:

1. **Engage** communities about the importance of regular school attendance.
2. **Empower** schools to use data to guide and improve practices.
3. **Eliminate** barriers to attendance through timely and effective interventions.

## Our Action Plan – Sharing our new attendance codes

PWPSD attendance codes track attendance to better inform schools and to help them support families in establishing positive attendance habits.

PWPSD will communicate with parents and provide support to schools on how to work with students, parents and communities.

Our goal is to increase student attendance rates through continued focus, communication and cooperative interventions that will see students achieve success in school and in life.

Resource: Attendance Works, [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)

| ATTENDANCE CODES |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>L</b>         | Late                     |
| <b>PN</b>        | Present                  |
| <b>ISS</b>       | In-School Suspension     |
| <b>CB</b>        | Cancelled Bus            |
| <b>IL</b>        | Illness                  |
| <b>HA</b>        | Health Appointment       |
| <b>AB</b>        | Absent                   |
| <b>OSS</b>       | Out-of-School Suspension |
| <b>AF</b>        | Absent (Family)          |
| <b>AV</b>        | Absent (Vacation)        |
| <b>REL</b>       | Released                 |

## What the research says:

### School attendance plays a critical role in student achievement

Students must be present and engaged to learn, yet many young students are academically at-risk because of extended absences. An estimated one in 10 kindergarten and first-grade students have too many absences. The following report looks at how schools, communities and families can monitor and promote attendance, and identify and address barriers to good attendance.

[Present, Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades](#)

