

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

By *Gabriella Mae Vargas*

“Ring!” “Ring!” My alarm goes off. I am really tired and want to stay home, but also need to get my work done. I totally get it when I'm really tired and want to stay in bed, especially on cold days, but I know I need to get up and go to school because ATTENDANCE MATTERS. Attendance means participating in events or activities **consistently** that build a successful student.

Missing Important Work

You will find that it is not fun to have a lot of work. Going to school and keeping up with work can prevent that. According to Gallardo student, N. Valdez, “I feel rushed because the work continues to pile up, and I feel upset with my grade because I know I can do better.” Think about what N. Valdez said, so the next time you have to skip school because you have to go to a relative's house or something else, you might want to tell your parents to plan things for another time. Hopefully parents will follow a student's advice because ATTENDANCE MATTERS. Amazingly, a fellow fourth grader named Celeste Gomez had perfect attendance, and stated, “You need to keep your attendance high because if you don't, you're going to have work piling up.” I would strongly agree with that because who would like to spend their whole weekend trying to complete missing assignments. Staying on top of your school work is just one example of why ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Affecting your Grade

Now let's get things straight, our parents are sending us to school to be successful, right? We also need good grades for that, but in order to get good grades you have to be at school. So what can we do to get good grades? Have high attendance! Just like I said, we need that new important information to connect to our prior knowledge to help us get that good grade! This means we also need to go to school to learn that knowledge for that work. Do you see the pieces coming together? You don't want to have that missing piece after all that hard work you did. As claimed by Kayden Bartlett, “When I am absent I miss work and that has an impact on my grades because I need to catch up with my work - that makes me mad. Mad because when I get home I need to catch up on my work instead of playing video games.” So now ask yourself, does ATTENDANCE MATTER?

Attendance Goal

Just imagine how setting a goal, something you want to achieve, will help you with reaching your potential in school. Here are some things you can do:

- Go to bed early
- Encourage your parents to make appointments after school
- Plan vacation during breaks
- Stay healthy by eating right and exercising
- Get involved with school activities and events
- Don't forget attendance helps you connect with friends, faculty, and staff

So next time you feel happy because you skipped school, remember: you could have extra work or get a low grade because you missed something very important.

Attendance matters and so do you, let's go Cardinals!

About the Author



Gabriella Mae Vargas is a 4th grade scholar at Gallardo Elementary School. She is a passionate writer and uses her writing to promote positivity amongst students. This talented student is an awesome dancer that does ballet folklorico, ballet, and tap. Her favorite thing to do is read. Every night she reads at least one chapter of a book before bed. She also loves her pets. She has one cat named Ash and a dog named Sassy. Her dog was a rescue dog and Ash.... Was born under a couch. Gabriella enjoyed making this article and hopes you like it.