

Kindle's Korner

by

Dr. Wayne Kindle, Superintendent Yankton School District

School Attendance

The importance of attendance in student success can't be overstated. Research consistently demonstrates that chronic absenteeism sets off a chain reaction of negative effects on academic performance, with consequences that compound over time.

Early attendance patterns are particularly crucial. Students who experience chronic absences in preschool, kindergarten, and first grade often struggle to achieve grade-level reading proficiency by third grade. This milestone is critical, as students who don't meet it are four times more likely to leave high school without graduating compared to their peers who read proficiently.

What's more, attendance patterns in later years continue to play a significant role. Irregular attendance serves as a strong indicator of potential dropout, with persistent low attendance in grades 8-12 substantially raising the risk of not completing high school.

When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.

It is important to recognize that a habit of good attendance is not only a school readiness skill, but a life skill. Consistent, on-time attendance creates a discipline that carries into adulthood.

YSD Celebrating 150 Years of Excellence in Education!

The Yankton School District is proud to mark its 150th Anniversary this year! Since 1875, we've been committed to providing quality education, fostering growth, and preparing students for the future.

Please mark your calendar for Friday, December 12. We will celebrate with the public at a double-header Buck and Gazelle Basketball game. We will have refreshments and a short commemorative video. There will also be an exciting announcement!

To commemorate this milestone, we have also been sharing "Monday Memories" using our social media throughout the year, highlighting stories, photos, and milestones from our district's rich history.

We are also celebrating in our schools and community with special events, student projects, and opportunities to reflect on our past while looking ahead to the future.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Together, we honor 150 years of learning, leading, and achieving—and we look forward to the next 150!

Benefits in Family Engagement

- **Improved Academic Performance:** When families are actively engaged in a student's education, it often results in higher academic achievement. Students receive more support with their homework, have better study habits, and show increased motivation to succeed academically.
- **Enhanced Behavioral Outcomes:** Engaged families play a pivotal role in shaping positive behavior in students. They provide the support and guidance needed for children to thrive socially and emotionally.
- **Increased Graduation Rates:** High school graduation rates tend to rise when families take an active role in their child's education. The encouragement and guidance provided by engaged families can help students stay on track to earn their diplomas.
- **Improved Student Achievement:** Family engagement significantly contributes to student achievement. Involving families in education leads to better academic and social performance, as well as faster literacy acquisition.

Superintendent Presentations

Thank you for the trust and confidence you have placed in me to lead the Yankton School District. You are welcome to contact me at any time. I would be happy to visit with you personally or speak to your group/organization.

I would be happy to host your group at our Administration Building or one of our school buildings. I would also come to your facility or meeting place.

If there is a specific topic you would like for me to address in the future, please call me at 665-3998 or email me at wayne.kindle@k12.sd.us

Henry Ford stated, **“Coming together is a beginning. Staying together is a process. Working together is a success**

