

Caledonia Community Schools

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Character ~ Curriculum ~ Climate ~ Community

September 12, 2018



Dear Families,

Welcome to the new school year and I hope that you and your child(ren) are settling into the groove for a great year! We're looking forward to a great year of learning and growth. Our team at Caledonia Community Schools will do everything we can to make this the best one yet for your child(ren).

As we begin this year, there is an important subject I want to highlight: **Attendance**. Good attendance, coming to school on time and staying all day every day are key to your child's success. Not just in school, but in life, too. After all, you must be present to win!

It doesn't take many absences to de-rail your child's learning and make it hard for them to catch back up. Even a series of appointments during school hours or leaving school early a few times a month can interfere with student learning. **Missing school is missing out!** Students who are absent – for any reason – risk learning to read on time, or may fall behind in classwork and become discouraged. Even worse – students with poor attendance are less likely to graduate from high school.

Please don't let absences rob your children of the education and good start in life that they deserve. Make sure they get to school on time – every day. Ask your medical professionals to provide appointments **after** school. And don't keep children home or out of school unless they are truly ill, such as with a fever or vomiting.

Our district, like the others across Kent ISD, is adopting the **"Strive for Less Than 5"** informational campaign about attendance and absenteeism. I'm asking every family to strive for less than 5 absences per child this school year. You'll be seeing messages, materials and tips about attendance in various communications throughout the year. I invite your ideas and feedback about them.

Every day counts. Please partner with us to boost your children's attendance, so we can work together to keep them learning and achieving!

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Dedrick Martin".

Dedrick Martin, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Caledonia Community Schools

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