



ONTARIO-MONTCLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Ontario, California

July 11, 2024

**RESOLUTION 2024-25-01**

**RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2024 AS ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the Ontario-Montclair School District is committed to providing a world-class education to all students in safe, respectful, culturally responsive, and welcoming environments that value and empower students, staff, and families to be successful in a dynamic global society by cultivating college, and community partnerships;

**WHEREAS**, good attendance is essential to student engagement, achievement, and we are committed to dedicating the focus and resources to reducing chronic absenteeism. Chronic absenteeism is defined as any student who misses 10% or more of school for any reason, making no distinction between excused or unexcused absences;

**WHEREAS**, the impact of chronic absenteeism hits students particularly hard if they do not have the resources to make up for lost time in the classroom. Starting in Kindergarten, missing 10% of school, or about two days each month over the school year, can make it harder to learn to read. Students who are chronically absent any year between eighth and twelfth grade are 7.4 times more likely to face systemic barriers in getting to school;

**WHEREAS**, chronic absenteeism may prevent children from reaching early learning milestones. Children who are chronically absent in preschool, kindergarten, and first grade are much less likely to read at grade level by third grade. Chronic absenteeism can lead to lower academic performance, decreased graduation rates, and increased dropout rates;

**WHEREAS**, raising awareness about the importance of school attendance and the impact of chronic absenteeism can help mobilize resources and support to ensure that all students attend school regularly and on time;

**WHEREAS**, the month of September is an opportune time to focus on attendance as it marks the beginning of the academic year;

**WHEREAS**, improving attendance and reducing absenteeism takes commitment from schools, families and community partners working together to rebuild a trusty communication, identify and address factors contributing to students missing school, particularly a lack of digital access, mental and physical health services and access to basic economic supports including food and housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the district and schools are committed to accurately track, calculate and share attendance data so that interventions are provided to students in a timely manner.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the Ontario-Montclair School District adopts Resolution 2024-25-01 and stands with the nation in recognizing September as "Attendance Awareness Month." We hereby commit to focusing on reducing absenteeism and addressing the factors that cause students to miss school in order to ensure all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotionally and socially. We recognize that we must stand together to engage students and families and send the message that everyday counts.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 11 day of July, by the Board of Trustees of the Ontario-Montclair School District of San Bernardino County, California.

Attest:



Elvia M. Rivas, Board President



Sonia Alvarado, Board Vice President



Kristen "Kris" Brake, Board Clerk



Flora Martinez, Board Member



Sarah S. Galvez, Board Member



James Q. Hammond, Ed.D.  
Superintendent/Board Secretary