



Dassa McKinney Elementary School

Moniteau School District

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January 9, 2024

Dear Dassa Parents/Guardians,

The Moniteau School District takes pride in partnering with our families to build a habit of good attendance. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about themselves and school. Start building your child's attendance habit in kindergarten so he/she can learn that going to school on time everyday is very important. A pattern of late arrivals can also lead to poor attendance. Students who miss more than 18 school days per academic year are considered chronically absent which equals to ten percent of the school year. As a result, students can fall behind in coursework and have a difficult time keeping connected with their classmates. Good attendance will help your child do well in high school, college and work.

This year we are going to continue our attendance improvement program here at Dassa McKinney Elementary School named *Challenge 5*. Dassa McKinney will ask our students to strive to miss 5 or less school days from January 19th through the end of the school year. Those students who miss 5 or less days throughout the remainder of the school year will be given an ice cream reward. This attendance reward will be based upon total absences being less than or equal to 5 days. For instance, if your child has more than 5 doctor's excuses, parental excuses or a combination of the two from January 19th through the end of the year, he/she will not be eligible for the prize. If you have any questions please contact the Dassa McKinney Elementary Office at 724-637-2321.

Thank you for your continued support in your child's education.

Chad Dillon, School Counselor