

PRESCHOOL and PRE-KINDERGARTEN STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The Koraes Elementary preschool and pre-kindergarten programs require a minimum of three half days in preschool (3YO) and a minimum of four half days for pre-kindergarten (4YO). Families have the option to choose which days of attendance. As the classes reach capacity, the school reserves the right to select days based on enrollment numbers.

Koraes Elementary School values the importance of consistent attendance. School attendance is fundamental to the academic success and spiritual growth of our students. For this reason, students are expected to attend school on all registered school days for the school term, unless an absence is excused. A student is absent from school when he/she is not physically present on a required student attendance day. A student is tardy when he/she is not physically present at the posted opening of a regular required student attendance day.

Consistent school attendance at any grade level is a critical component of education. Regular and punctual attendance allows for children to obtain the maximum opportunities in our preschool and prekindergarten programs. During preschool young children experience, regulate and express a range of emotions, develop close relationships with other children and adults, and they actively explore their environment and learn how to problem solve. These particular aspects of preschool are helping children develop socially and emotionally. When a child is frequently absent it may lead to underdeveloped social and emotional growth. Children who inconsistently attend school are at risk for lower academic performance. Koraes preschool programs provide a strong foundation in early numeracy, early literacy, and enhanced vocabulary. These academic opportunities go beyond literacy and math instruction. Our students have daily instruction in the Greek language, multiple days of religious education, art, science and PE. Regular attendance is of utmost importance for school interest, social adjustment, and scholastic achievement. No single factor may interfere with a student's progress more quickly than frequent tardiness or absence.

A student absence will be excused if it is due to:

- (1) student illness (including mental/behavioral health);
- (2) observance of a religious holiday celebrated at a different parish;
- (3) death in the immediate family;
- (4) a family emergency;
- (5) other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the principal;
- (6) other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional or physical health or safety; and
- (7) other reasons approved by the principal.

Absences due to medical reasons may be required to provide medical documentation. If medical documentation is required and is not provided, the absences will be marked as unexcused. An unexcused absence is an absence from school for a reason other than those listed above as an excused absence.

Families are responsible for contacting the school office or the teacher each day the student is absent. When calling in an absence, please state the child's name, teacher's name, and a reason for the absence. We encourage families to communicate any hardships that may interfere with regular student attendance so that we can partner with families and provide as many supports as possible.

Excessive Absenteeism

Excessive absenteeism means absences that total 10% or more of school attendance days in the current school year including both excused and unexcused absences. We will periodically review our student absence data to determine if any students are excessively absent and, if so, we may call the parent/guardian to discuss the reasons for the excessive absences. If there is no improvement in attendance or cooperation by the parents with their efforts for their child, the student may be withdrawn from the school.

Once a student is disenrolled, he/she will have the opportunity to reapply the following school year upon parents signing a contract regarding consistent attendance.