



September 2016

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to *East Garner Magnet Middle*! We are excited to have you this year and look forward to a great school year. In order to make the year as productive as possible, a student must be in school on a regular basis with little or no absences. For your information, I've included some facts about attendance that you might find helpful throughout the school year. You may find more information in the student handbook or online at the Wake County Public Schools website (www.wcpss.net).

Some highlights are as follows:

1. All children up to 16 years of age must attend school on time every day. This means that at East Garner Magnet Middle, students must be in their seats by 8:15 a.m. This is N.C. law as well as Wake County School Board policy (NC Law 115C-378 and Wake County policy 6000).
2. Every absence is considered either excused or unexcused. Please see below for a list of excused absences.
3. A note written by the parent or guardian is required within 2 school days of a student's return to school after an absence, explaining the nature of the absence with dates and the student's name. A note is required even if the parent contacts the school by phone. A note does not guarantee an absence will be excused but all absences without notes will be considered unexcused. While we understand that family emergencies arise, please provide detailed information as to the nature of the emergency.
4. Excessive absences may lead to school failure (in some cases, based solely on absences), the requirement of a doctor's note for any absence to be excused, and/or court penalties including fines or imprisonment. Though the law is strongly worded, its intention is for children to be successful in school. Every effort is made to avoid such serious consequences.

Attendance letters will be sent periodically if your child reaches certain levels of absenteeism. We want to work with you and your student whenever a situation arises that may be a problem. We understand that things arise that are out of your control and we will do all we can to make the school experience pleasant and successful for you and your child. I'm sure if we work together your child can have a great educational experience at *East Garner Magnet Middle*.

If at any time you have questions or concerns about attendance or any other area which you think I might be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at 919.335.6953.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jeannette J. McNeal, ACSW, LCSW
School Social Worker

6000.3 - An absence is **excused** if the following conditions exist: Illness or injury which makes the student physically unable to attend school; Isolation ordered by State Board of Health or the Wake County Health Department; Death in the family; Medical, dental, or other appointment with a health care provider approved in advance; Court when a student is under subpoena; Religious observance; Participation in a valid educational opportunity, such as travel with prior approval, as documented on the "Request for Excused Absence for Educational Reasons"; Catastrophic event or natural disaster.

Si necesita servicios de traducción gratuitos para comprender los procesos escolares, llame al (919) 852-3303

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات الترجمة المجانية للتعرف على سير العمليات بالمدرسة، اتصل بالرقم (919) 852-3303

Si vous avez besoin de services de traduction gratuits pour comprendre les procédures scolaires, appelez le (919) 852-3303

यदि आपको विद्यालय की प्रक्रियाओं को समझने के लिए निःशुल्क अनुवाद सेवाएं चाहिए, तो (919) 852-3303 पर कॉल करें

학교/교육 과정에 관한 무료 번역 서비스가 필요하시면 다음 번호로 연락하여 주십시오 (919)852-3303

Nếu quý vị cần sự thông dịch miễn phí để hiểu phương pháp trường học, xin vui lòng gọi số điện thoại, 919-852-3303

如果您需要免费翻译服务来了解学校流程，请致电 (919) 852-3303