

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER
2025



Attendance Matters:

The best way for your child to learn is to be at school daily. Chronic absenteeism, which is missing two monthly school days, equals 10% of the school year and negatively impacts students in various ways as they progress through their school year, starting with kindergarten.

What to do if your child is absent:

Please call the main office (716-677-3642) to report that your child will be absent. Providing a specific reason for your child's absence will make this an *excused absence* rather than an *unexcused absence* and reduce the likelihood that your child will receive a district attendance letter. District attendance letters are mailed home once your child has seven unexcused absences.

Examples of Excused Absences:

- *Illness or sickness
- *Medical appointment (doctor, dentist, or other healthcare-related appointments)
- *Family emergency/Death of a loved one
- *Religious Observances

Examples of Unexcused Absences:

- *Personal
- *Overslept
- *Vacation
- *Missed the bus

Attendance Facts:

- Regular attendance is correlated with higher achievement rates.
- Regular attendance allows students to stay on grade level, keep up with their work, and understand assignments.
- Being at school will enable students to learn academic and social skills.
- Regular school attendance helps kids feel connected to their school community.
- Regular school attendance sends a message that education is essential.



School Social Workers:

Your Northwood Support Staff is here to help make it a great year! Please reach out if you or your child need some extra support.

☎ **Ms. Fitzpatrick**, (716) 677-3649

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Mrs. Reedy, (716) 677-3653 ereedy@wscschools.org



Happy, Healthy Kids TIP:

Prioritize healthy sleep habits. Now that school is back in session, create healthy bedtime routines and ensure your child gets 9-12 hours of sleep each night. Shut off electronics at least 1 hour before bed, and try to go to bed and wake up at the same time each day. Incorporate mindfulness activities to help your child unwind.

Feelings Check-In:

I am feeling:



Reach out if you need support:



Parents/caregivers should contact the school social worker for support if a child struggles to get to school. School social workers can help address attendance issues by identifying potential barriers and connecting families with resources. They can also collaborate with parents, teachers, and other school staff to create a plan that supports the child's successful school attendance.