

## **Tac Titooqan Article January 2018**

### **School Absences Add Up**

I would like to thank those students and their families who continue to make regular and punctual attendance a priority this year. Poor attendance leaves a student academically behind their peers and reduces the likelihood they will graduate. Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success, both in school and in life. When you make school attendance a priority, you help your child get better grades, develop healthy life habits, avoid dangerous behavior and have a better chance of graduating from high school. Other important facts to consider include:

If a student is 10 minutes late to school each day, this adds up to missing more than 29 hours of class time per year. If this pattern continues, a student with a 90 percent attendance average for kindergarten through 12th grade will miss over a year of accumulated time in the classroom.

Research shows students who miss 10 percent of school, or two days per month, show negative academic progress.

Exclusive of school-scheduled activities, a student may only miss twelve (12) days per semester. Failure to meet this standard will result in “no credit” or “withdrawal” on the student transcript.

Average daily attendance is a component to state and federal funding. Missed days equal less resources for Lapwai students.

Patterns of continuous truancy require the school to refer students to child protective services, the prosecutor, and the school board for expulsion consideration.

Most high school grade levels in Lapwai currently have an attendance average below 90 percent. Every day is a step toward the finish line and earning a diploma. Thank you for your assistance in supporting student success and making attendance a priority in the new year.

### **Winter School Closures**

The safety of our students is our most important priority in the Lapwai School District. We have been fortunate so far this winter season to avoid school closures due to weather conditions. Should there be a snow day, parents would be notified with a prerecorded autodialing phone message. It is important to keep your phone numbers current with the school to enable us to contact you in the case of any emergency. School closures are also posted on our Facebook page

under: Lapwai School District #341. The superintendent requests announcements on the following radio and television stations as well:

**Television:**

KREM 2

KXLY 4

KHQ 6

**Radio:**

KIYE 88.7

KATW 101.5

KZID 98.5

KCLK AM 1430

KRLC AM 1350