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July 22, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

School attendance makes a significant difference in a child being successful or falling behind. The Pascagoula-Gautier School District takes school attendance very seriously.

The first day of school for children in our district is Thursday, August 6, 2015. Although we have registered about 80 percent of students for the upcoming school year, many parents still have not enrolled their children. All children will be required to make up work missed during the time they are not enrolled.

Students are required to attend school 180 days every year. Every minute your child is not in school, he is missing out on the knowledge and skills he needs to be successful and promoted to the next grade.

No one wants to see a child fail. Not enrolling your child at the proper start date places his classmates, his teacher, the school district, and most importantly, your child at a disadvantage both academically and emotionally. Chronic absenteeism undermines a child's self-confidence as he falls behind in his studies. Please make every effort to register your child prior to the first day of school and get him to school on time every day. Your child's success in life depends on it.

Children's attendance in school is mandatory as described in the below law which gives the expectation for children to be enrolled in school in this state and our school board policy:

A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child in this state shall cause the child to enroll in and attend a public school or legitimate nonpublic school for the period of time that the child is of compulsory school age", with certain exceptions as allowed by law. Miss. Code Ann. 37-13-91

"All children who have attained or will attain the age of 6 years and who have not attained the age of 17 years on or before September 1 of the school year are 'compulsory-school-age children' and must be enrolled in school", unless excused by law. Board Policy JBA.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter,

Wayne V. Rodolfich,
Superintendent