

## The Best Gift You Can Give Your Child is an Education

We hope your family had a good Thanksgiving break, and we're happy to see so many students back in school, ready to learn this week. As we enter the holiday season, we want to reinforce the importance of school attendance. Every year, absences spike in the weeks before and after winter break as families squeeze in a few more vacation days. This holiday season, the best gift you can give your child is a good education. And the best place to get that education is in school. We know that just a few missed days here and there, even if they're excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. We also know that attendance is a habit that children should learn early on if they're going to succeed in school and eventually on the job.

We recognize that holidays are an important time for reconnecting with families far away. The costs of plane tickets often influence when you want to travel. But keep in mind the costs to your children's education if they miss too much school— and the message you will be sending about the importance of attendance. Our teachers will be teaching, and our students will be learning, right up until vacation starts.

For more information on the Waterford School District's Attendance Policy or why school attendance is critical to academic achievement please contact your child's school or the Waterford Success Program at 248.682.1086.

