## ATENDANCE MATTERS <br> AT

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year.

Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence.

An estimated 5
million to 7.5 million U.S. students miss nearly a month of school each year school.

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Attendance improves when schools engage students and parents in positive ways and when schools provide mentors for chronically absent students.

- 5 minutes late every day $=3$ whole days per year absent
- 43\% of 12 th graders who did not graduate on time missed at 20+ days of school in the 9th grade
- 1 in 5 students in Arkansas are chronically absent
- $18 \%$ of high school students are chronically absent

