

# Manzanita Messenger

Renee Hults, Principal

Ronda Vanlandingham, Office Manager

May 2016

## Upcoming Events

**May 3-** PTA 2:00

**May 10-** Kinder Roundup 5-6:30

**May 12-** 5<sup>th</sup> grade Table Rock

**May 12-** 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Zooland presentation

**May 12-** Mrs. Gills class to Crossing Bridges

**May 19-** Food Drive

**May 19-** Readers Theater presentation 6-7pm

**May 24** 1<sup>st</sup> grade to Wildlife Images.

**May 26-** 4<sup>th</sup> grade to Hanley Farms

**May 30-** No School-Memorial day



## Thoughts from the Principal,

Dear Manzanita Families-

I can't believe it is May already. Soon the school year will be coming to an end. Our 3, 4 and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are finishing up their Smarter Balance testing. So make sure you have a good breakfast and plenty of sleep so you will be ready for it. On May 10 from 5-6:30 we will be welcoming any new Manzanita Mountain Lions during Kindergarten Roundup. If you know of any 5 year olds, we hope to see you then.

This year we had a new group at Manzanita, Readers Theater. These young talented students will be performing for us on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 in the gym. Come enjoy some theater!

Carnival Night will be here soon, June 3. If you would like to help with booths, or donate auction items, please let us know. This fundraiser helps our PTA who provides music program, IXL, yearbooks and many more items for Manzanita. This is a fun family event that everyone can enjoy. We hope to see you there supporting Manzanita.

As the school year winds down, and we all look forward to summer, school attendance is still important. We look forward to seeing your student each morning by 7:40, so they can learn and grow and experience all school has to offer.

Thank you for sharing your students with Manzanita each day.

Renee Hults  
Principal

### Warm Weather Wear

*As the weather changes to the warmer summer temperatures, remember to keep in mind appropriate school dress. Please keep tank top straps no smaller than a 2 finger width and shorts and skirts must come down below your fingertips when at your side. Boys tank tops should have a normal arm hole, if wearing a basketball top please wear something under it. Shoes with backs must be worn to assure they stay on during recess. Stepping on the rocks barefooted hurts!*

### CALLING ALL KINDERS!!!

If your child will be 5 by Sept. 1, 2016, come join us for Kindergarten Roundup

**Tuesday, May 10 from 5-6:30 pm  
at Manzanita.**

Please bring Birth Certificate and Immunizations, and any legal paperwork. These are needed to complete enrollment. They will be copied and returned to you.



### Readers Theater

Come and enjoy the Readers Theater performance on May 19 from 6-7pm. Watch the talent of some of our Manzanita students.



### MANZANITA CARNIVAL NIGHT

*Candyland Carnival*

*FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2016*

*5:30-8:00 PM*

*Come join us in fun, food, games as well as Live and Silent Auctions!*

*This year's special event:*

**DUNK TANK**

*Come on down and see who you can dunk!*

*This PTA sponsored events help raise money for our music program as well as Book fair and art night.*

### Family Advocate

Hi, Manzanita Families. Spring is here! The air is full of sweet flower scents and beautiful blooms. We hope all is well with you and your families. We aren't having a food drive in May but we do need peanut butter, jelly, mac and cheese, spaghetti sauce, canned beans or baked beans and canned meat. Any food is appreciated. You can drop it at the office and our wonderful ladies will give the food to me. The clothes closet is good. I will take good used, clean shoes. I have been donating lots of shoes to students lately. Sizes 2 and 3 for girls are needed. And Size 6-8 shoes for boys. I will take any size you have any time. The school year is coming to a close quickly. Thank you so much for all the help. I couldn't help all the students without you.

Thank you,

Janet Hudson/ Family Advocate.

**CANDY  
LAND**





## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

### DID YOU KNOW?

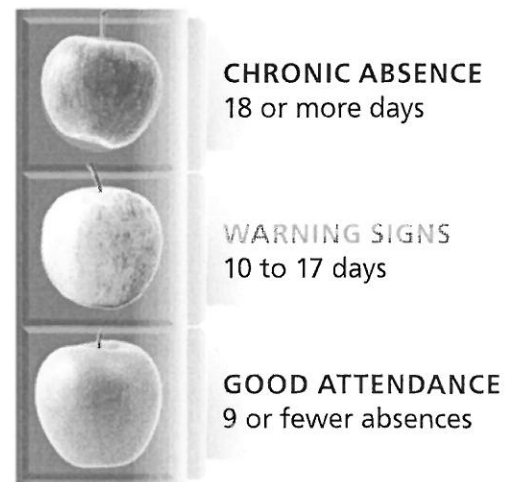
- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit [attendanceworks.org](http://attendanceworks.org) and [reachoutandread.org](http://reachoutandread.org)

# Help Your School and Community Improve School Attendance:

## PUSH FOR BETTER TRACKING OF CHRONIC ABSENCE DATA

Every report card includes a box showing parents just how many absences their children have. But does your school look at absenteeism numbers for the whole student body? And can the principal tell you how many students are missing so much school that it interferes with their academic performance? Keep in mind, too much absenteeism isn't just a problem for the students missing school but can disrupt learning for the whole classroom.

All parents should know this sort of information about their children's school. But many schools and districts don't track or release what's known as chronic absence data – the percent of students missing 10% or 18 days over an entire school year. They look at the average number of students who show up for school, rather than at the number who are missing too much school due to any kind of absence, excused or unexcused. Average figures can mask large numbers of chronically absent, at-risk students.

***Parents can make a difference!***

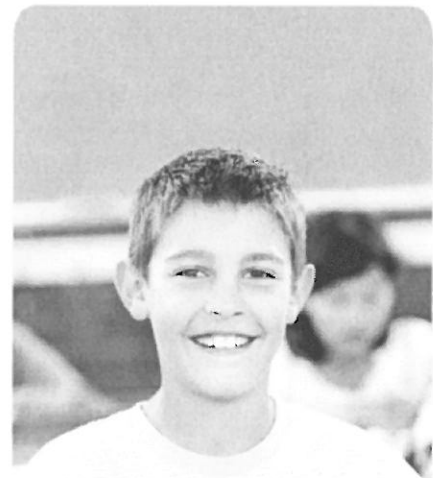
## WHAT YOU CAN DO

### In Your Community

- **Get the data:** Ask your school and district to calculate chronic absence rates and share them with parents, teachers and principals.
- **Identify barriers to attendance:** Work with your school to find out from parents and students what prevents them from getting to school.
- **Make a plan:** Encourage your school to make a plan and partner with community agencies to address identified attendance barriers.
- **Create incentives:** Help your school recognize students and families for good and improved attendance. Assist with award ceremonies and certificates or even reach out to local businesses to contribute incentives like gift cards or food items.
- **Educate parents:** Help all parents in your school understand the importance of attendance and who to call for the health, transportation or social services resources they need.

### In Your State

- **Encourage tracking:** State regulations or laws should ensure that more school districts track chronic absence data and report it to the state.
- **Urge better reporting:** Your state education department should release chronic absence data statewide, just like they release test scores for districts and schools.
- **Advocate for accountability:** Your state department of education and districts should hold schools accountable for addressing chronic absence in their school improvement plans.



**Families  
In Schools**   
Building Partnerships for Student Success

