



every day counts

ATTEND TODAY -
ACHIEVE TOMORROW!

August 2013

Dear School Site Leader,

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office and the Oakland Unified School District have worked together for many years to address the issues of student truancy and absenteeism at all grade levels. Despite the progress we have made, far too many Oakland students continue to miss so much school that their academic futures are at risk. During the 2012/2013 school year, one out of every ten Oakland students missed nearly a month of school, a trend that starts for some children as early as kindergarten or even prekindergarten.

The Oakland Education Cabinet Attendance Collaborative, co-chaired by the Alameda County District Attorney's Office and the Oakland Unified School District, is pleased to provide you with a new and revised Every Day Counts Toolkit. This toolkit offers resources, information and flyers to help you partner with families, staff and the community to ensure more students attend every day.

Understanding the essential nature of site level leadership in mobilizing the members of a school community to address this issue, we hope that the toolkit will assist you and your site Attendance Team to:

- Identify opportunities where you can personally convey the message that going to school every day matters to success in school and life
- Mobilize supporters
- Set goals and targets after reviewing OUSD data reports
- Strengthen or establish your current system of recognizing good and improved attendance.
- Undertake vital self-assessment

Please join us in our efforts to ensure students go to school every day so they can achieve their hopes and dreams. Improving attendance is an investment in our future

Sincerely,

Gary Yee
Acting Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District

Nancy O'Malley
District Attorney
Alameda County

