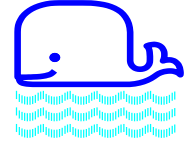


Eli Whitney Elementary School
1130 Huntington Road
Stratford, CT 06614
(203) 385-4198



Victoria Florek, Principal

Robert Veteri, Assistant Principal

November 2020

IMPORTANT!

Dear Eli Whitney Families,

School attendance matters, whether your child is an in-person learner or a distance learner. Having your children in school or online, **on time every day**, is vital to their making academic and behavior growth.

In-person Learners:

Each morning our doors open at 8:30 a.m. and in-person students are expected to be in their classrooms ready to start the day by 8:45 a.m. In-person students arriving after 8:45 a.m. are considered tardy. If your child is absent, it is your responsibility to call the school's absentee line and leave a detailed explanation why your child is not in school.

Distance Learners and Cohort Learners:

Distance learners and cohort online learners must log on to their google meet/zoom meeting by 9:15 a.m. Those who do not engage by 9:15 a.m. are marked absent. Students working from home must complete all work and participate in lessons just like they would be expected to in-person. If your child is not able to do this, it is your responsibility to call the school's absentee line and leave a detailed explanation why. Teachers reserve the right to change your child's attendance if they do not participate in all the lessons.

Per state law, for every school year, absences number 1 through 9 are excused when the school is notified of the child's absence. Starting with absence number 10, state regulations require parents and guardians to provide the required documentation to excuse any further absences, as **any number above 9 is deemed excessive**. Absences can be excused when followed by the proper documentation such as physician office notes.

Please note the following definitions that apply to all students:

Truancy:

Truant = 4 unexcused absences in 1 month or 10 in 1 school year. The first 9 absences with parent note are excused automatically. For the 10th and after, student must have proper documentation.

Chronic Absenteeism:

Chronic Absenteeism = 10% of school days missed BOTH excused and unexcused, or example, September has 19 school days – 10% would be 2 days missed or there are 73 days through December – 10% would be 7 missed days of school.

If you have questions regarding the number of days that your child has been absent, you can check your Powerschool Parent Portal account. You can also contact our main office for information regarding your child's attendance record.

We look forward to working with everyone to insure that all students attend school on a regular basis and have a successful school year.

Victoria K. Florek

Victoria Florek
Principal

Robert Veteri

Robert Veteri
Assistant Principal