



### What's the big deal with attendance?

State statute 118.15 went into effect in 1972. The intent of the statute is to help families and schools stay mindful of student attendance and to provide documentation that this is happening. This statute also helps schools to have conversations with families if/when attendance becomes an issue. Our overall excellent student attendance does not exempt us from documenting thoroughly and properly.

### What about family events and appointments?

The state statute (118.15) that we follow provides for 10 parent choice days. These days are intended to provide enough flexibility for families while ensuring proper student attendance. Families may choose to use these days for family vacation time that does not fall during a break, appointments, and other necessary life events. **If you provide a doctor's note for an appointment, a parent choice day is not utilized.** Parent-reported illnesses are considered "excused." After three consecutive days, a doctor's note may be requested.

### What has changed at Sheboygan Falls Elementary?

As part of state statute 118.15, our district must set consistent start and end times, as well as "cut off" times for what is considered "tardy." District "tardy" times for arrival and dismissal are currently 8:05 AM and 2:50 PM. All educational times during the day are important in helping us to achieve our many academic and social goals for children!

If your child is absent a portion of a school day for an appointment, and you provide a medical excuse, this would be considered an excused absence. **To ensure your child is excused for medical appointments, please consider asking for a doctor's excuse before you leave their office.** You can also have an excuse faxed to us at 920-467-7824.

### Where can I find more information about attendance requirements?

More information and a list of frequently asked questions can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's website:  
<http://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pdf/schlattendqa.pdf>

Please do not hesitate to contact the school with your attendance questions: 920-467-7820  
[lbub@sheboyganfalls.k12.wi.us](mailto:lbub@sheboyganfalls.k12.wi.us)