



Clay Chalkville Middle School Cougar News

September 2022

Breakfast and Lunch Free Now!

You should have received an email regarding our school now falling under what's known as the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). This means that your student will now be able to eat breakfast and lunch at no cost! Additional a la carte items are available for purchase, but the meal itself will now be covered.

One thing we need your help with is clearing up any negative lunch balances.

If your child had any charges for meals prior to September 1st, and you have a negative balance, please pay that as soon as possible. You may pay cash or check to the school, or you can pay online with a credit or debit card.

Again, our school being part of the community eligibility provision is a win for our students in so many ways! You may check your email for more information.

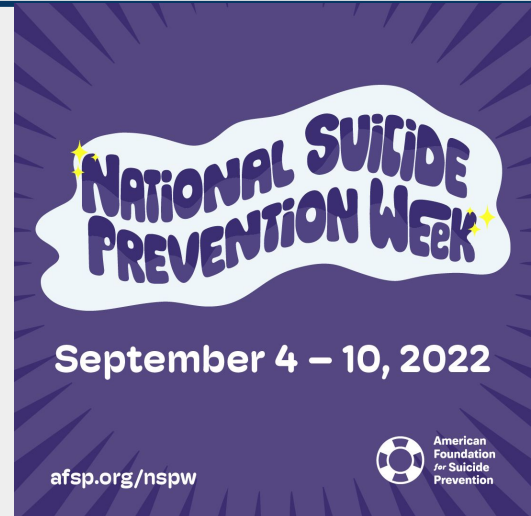
Thank you and GO COUGARS!

September is Attendance Awareness Month

Please see page 3 for Jefcoed's attendance policies.

Progress Reports will be emailed out on Friday, September 9.

[Click here for info on how to use
PARENT PORTAL](#)



National Suicide Prevention Week

Helplines/Resources

- [National Suicide Prevention](#) Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Dial 988
- [NAMI National Alliance on Mental Health](#) (NAMI) facts, programs, discussion groups, and helpline: 1-800-950-6264
- [Anxiety and Depression Association of America](#) (ADAA) prevention, treatment, symptoms. Phone: 240-485-1001
- [SAMHSA Treatment Locator](#) provides referrals to low cost/sliding scale mental health care, substance abuse and dual diagnosis treatment. Phone: 800-662-4357
- [HealthyChildren.org](#) - Emotional Wellness
- Seek immediate assistance if you think your child is in danger of harming themselves or others. You can call a crisis line or the [National Suicide Prevention Line](#) at 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- Dial 2-1-1 from a local phone or use website to search for organizations that offer local support resources and services.

Congratulations!

September

Students of the Month

Diamond Barber (7th)
Brianna Bean (6th)
Rhazaeliya Burgess (8th)
Josiah Burnett (8th)
Maria Gutierrez-Martin (8th)
Hezekiah Jones (7th)
Kaitlyn Jones (6th)
Kaden McLaughlin (8th)
Janiah Pritchett (6th)
Annelise Ramos (6th)
Isaiah Stevens (6th)
Madison Wilson (7th)

**Teachers recognized these students for
demonstrating CCMS PRIDE.**



P.R.I.D.E.

**Prepared * Respectful * Involved*
Determined * Engaged**



Alabama law **requires children between the ages of 6 and 17 to attend school**. The parent of a child who is 6 may opt out of enrolling the child in school by written notification to the local school board that the child will not be enrolling until age 7. Authority: Ala. Code §16-28-1, §16-28-3 and §16-28-7(1975) Amended by Alabama Act 2014-245, p. 785, §4, eff. 7/1/2014



Permissible Absences:

Excuses must be submitted within 3 days of return.

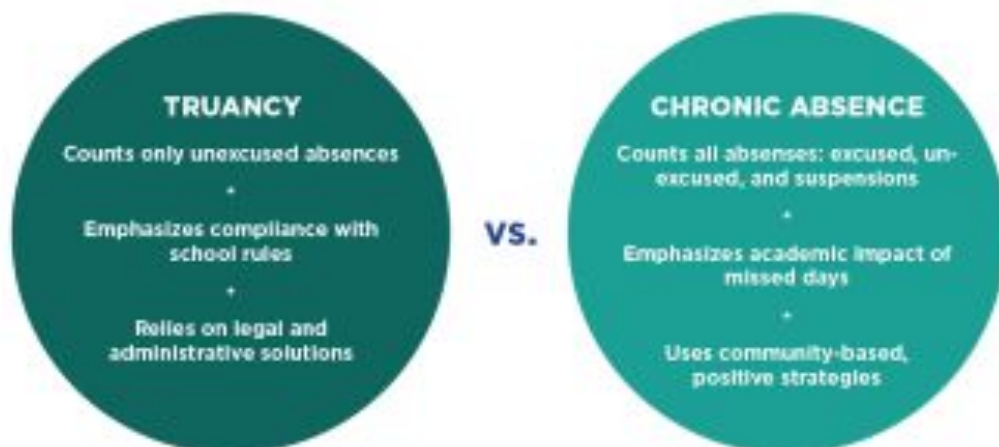
Absences may be excused for the following reasons:

1. Student illness;
2. Inclement weather which makes it dangerous to attend school;
3. Legal quarantine;
4. Death in the immediate family;
5. Emergency conditions as determined by the principal or superintendent;
6. Observance of a traditional religious holiday of local, national, or international origin when verified by the student's minister or religious leader



A parent can only excuse **7 days** per year with a parent note. In addition, a parent note can also be used to excuse **a total of 7 checkins/outs** per year.

Truancy vs. Chronic Absence



7 or more unexcused absences counts as **Truancy and can be referred to the court.**

18 or more total absences counts as **Chronic Absence and affects the School Report Card**

NEED HELP?

CONTACT 2-1-1

Your link to community resources

CALL Dial 2-1-1 or 888-421-1266

TEXT Text your zip code to 898-211

CHAT Visit 211connectsalabama.org

Child & Family Services • Food Assistance
• Utilities & Housing Services • Education & Training Services • Health & Mental Health Services • Disaster Relief & Recovery



Where can I volunteer?

Where do I go during a disaster?

What senior services are available in my area?

Are there child care programs in my area?

Where can I get help with food for my family?

How do I get connected to services for veterans?

Where can I find affordable housing?

How do I receive help with health care and prescriptions?

FIND HELP LOCALLY

2-1-1 links the caller to:

- **Basic Human Needs:** food, clothing, shelter, and other basic needs
- **Physical & Mental Health:** health insurance programs, Medicaid and Medicare, intervention services, support groups, counseling, drug and alcohol intervention, victim services, and rehabilitation
- **Employment Support:** Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), financial assistance, job training, transportation assistance, education programs, and foreclosure prevention services
- **Support for Senior Citizens:** adult day care, respite care, home health care, transportation, specialized services for individuals of all ages with disabilities, employment assistance
- **Support for Children, Youth, & Families:** child care, after-school programs, family resource centers, mentoring, tutoring, and protective services
- **Disaster Relief and Recovery:** emergency shelters, food distribution, clean up crews/debris removal, tarping, long term recovery, potable water, ice, grief counseling, State and Federal assistance

CHILDREN OR UNACCOMPANIED YOUTHS THAT LIVE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

- In a shelter
- In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station
- In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation
- Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

Eligible children and youth have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference and is feasible.
- Transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to the needs of the child or youth.

If you believe a child or youth may be eligible, contact the ALSDE Homeless Education Coordinator at 334-694-4529 or your district's Homeless Liaison to find out what services and supports may be available.

