

Did you know?

- High school graduates earn about \$9,200 more per year than high school dropouts.
- High school graduates have a nine-year longer life expectancy
- College graduates earn about \$1 million more during their lifetime than dropouts.
- Nationally, nearly 1/3 of 9th graders will dropout before graduating.

In Ohio, school attendance is required for all children ages six through 18. When unexcused absences total seven days in a row, 10 days in one month, or 15 days in a school year, the student is deemed “chronically truant” and court action will begin.

Parents are given the difficult task of trying to manage the lives of their children. Yet, one aspect of their lives will affect their potential, income and security, and happiness perhaps more than any other – their education.

Let’s work together to keep your child in school.

Project KEY is funded by:



Resources for Families

I-Pass: 614.365.HELP

Office of Student Assistance,
Intervention and Outreach: 614.365.5850

Project Connect: 614.365.5140

First Link: 614.221.2255

Directions for Youth and Families: 614.294.2661

Nationwide Children’s Hospital
Behavioral Health Services: 614.355.8080

Netcare Access: 614.276.CARE

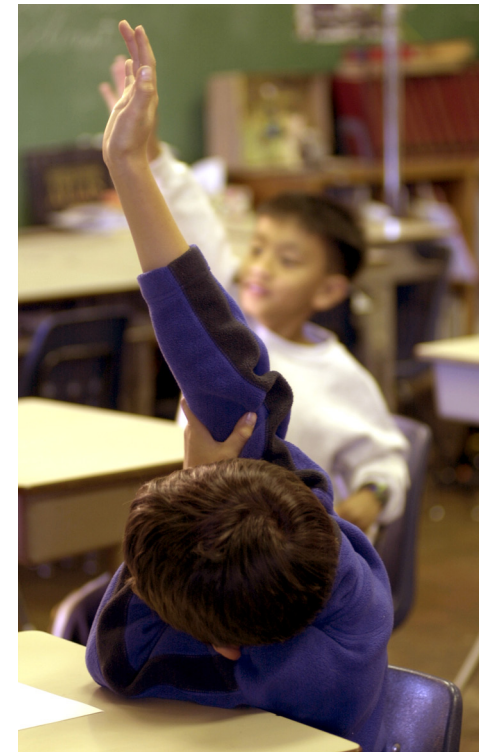
For more information, contact:

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Keep Engaging Youth at Columbus City Schools

*School attendance is the **key** to success.*



About the Program

School attendance is the KEY to success. Project KEY is an innovative new program to help students stay engaged, interested and learning in school.

KEY Advocates

Each school is assigned an advocate to help eliminate barriers to school attendance and improve student academic performance.

KEY advocates are committed to working with you, your child and school staff to avoid the lengthy and unpleasant court process when unexcused absences exceed the number allowed by law.

If a child has missed five or more days from school, parents will be invited to mediation. After discussing the reasons for absence and developing an attendance plan, the KEY advocate will follow-up with parent and child.

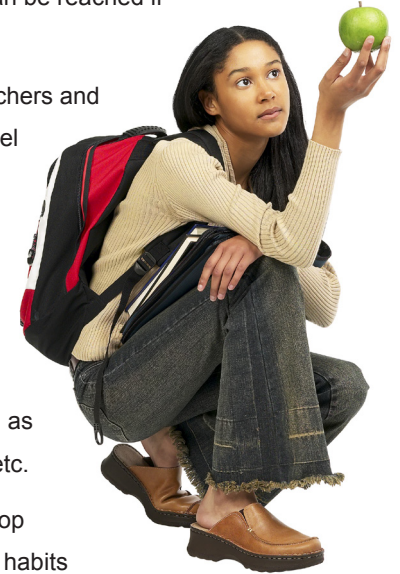
Students whose attendance improves will receive program rewards, but more importantly, they will dramatically improve their chances for graduation, future employment, and a lifetime of success.

“[Project KEY] helped me bring my grades up so I actually passed, because at that point, I thought I wasn’t going to pass 8th grade.”

- Project KEY student

Project KEY Tips for Parents

- Be sure your school has current contact information so you can be reached if your child is absent
- Meet your child’s teachers and other school personnel
- Schedule daily home study time
- Encourage your child to participate in extra-curricular school activities such as sports, band, clubs, etc.
- Help your child develop good study and work habits



“I love the program because I get a chance to at least identify and work on the problem myself before the courts get into it.”

- Project KEY parent

When parents and teachers work together to solve attendance problems and students become engaged in the school community, great results follow.

