

## **The Importance of Student Attendance**

Being present in class every day is important to learning. Frequent or extended absences can take their toll on student achievement. And did you know that school districts receive funding for student attendance only on days when students are in school? We do not receive funding for an absent student regardless of the reason.

Overall the Newhall School District has a very good attendance rate. In the 2009-2010 school year the rate was 96.4%. This means our students were absent only 3.6% of the time. Here are some of the statistics for this school year.

State funding per student for 100% attendance	\$4,717.78
Number of School Days	180
Daily revenue per student	7,080
Funded enrollment	6,826
Los revenue due to absences	\$1,198,316

Given this information, if we increased our attendance by only  $\frac{1}{2}$  percent, we could increase state funding by 35 students or \$165,122. This money could be used for additional classroom support or instructional materials.

It is very important that our students attend school every day. Of course, we understand that children get sick and there are other family emergencies when they cannot attend school. Please, when possible keep your children in school, make doctor appointments after school, have students spend at least part of the day at school when conflicts are unavoidable, and get your children to school on time. It's good for them, and it's good for the district also.