Have you heard?

School funding …

It’s all about ATTENDANCE!

It goes without saying that regular attendance plays a significant role in your child’s academic performance. But did you know that your child’s attendance plays a major role in CUSD’s budget?

Listen to this … actual student attendance accounts for 93% of school funding!

By actual, we mean “in the seat” attendance. In other words, the state pays the district for every student who attends school on any given day. Every time a student is absent FOR ANY REASON, funding is lost.

Once upon a time …

funding was lost only when a student’s absence was not verified by a valid excuse (i.e., illness, funeral, etc.). But now, funding is lost for any reason a student is absent all day, excused or not. The reason we continue to verify absences is to comply with the state’s compulsory attendance law. Absences are documented to monitor truancy, as well as funding. Three unexcused absences or three tardies of thirty minutes or more per year qualify a student for truancy review.

The three most common reasons for absence, and how you can help:

- **Illness.** Please keep your child at home. Be sure to notify the school attendance office. *(Funding is NOT provided.)*
- **Doctor’s appointment,** or other commitment outside of school. Schedule appointments after school if possible. If not, your child may attend school for part of the day. *(Funding IS provided for partial day attendance.)*
- **Planned absences.** Obtain an Independent Study Contract for absences of five or more consecutive days. The contract allows your child to maintain academic performance as well as keep a clear attendance record. *(Funding IS provided for completed independent study contracts.)*

Please continue to make your child’s attendance a top priority!

Any questions regarding attendance may be directed to Jean Barr at CUSD’s attendance accounting office 398-0609, x7040