As we continue into the school year, it is a good time to review the basic goals we have for the school year.

* SUPPORT REGULAR ATTENDANCE: He woke up late and there’s no way he’s getting to the bus. You’ve got to get to work and don’t have enough time to drive him. Would it REALLY matter if he missed just ONE day of school?

The answer is YES! Attendance makes a BIG difference. Children who attend school regularly achieve at higher rates than students who are chronically absent. So please get your child to school every day! Most children have trouble keeping up if they miss more than a few days. To encourage attendance:

  * Tell your child that school is extremely important to you and your family.
  * Avoid taking your child out of school to babysit younger children or to go on vacation.
  * Schedule your child’s medical or dental appointments for non-school hours whenever possible.

* SET UP A “HOMEWORK HUB”: Children need a quiet area for studying. But that doesn’t mean your child has to be banished to his room. Some children like to have people around, especially parents who can help. If your child feels this way, brainstorm a distraction-free spot that might work-like the kitchen table (with the television off!).

* MAKE TIME TO TALK ABOUT SCHOOL: You read the handouts sent home, sign the assignment notebook, check the website and attend parent-teacher meetings. But don’t forget to consult another expert-your child. Look at homework together. Ask what classroom activities are going on. When your child knows you give your full attention, they will be more likely to talk about their day.

Your support makes all the difference for your child!

Sincerely, Mrs. Nanette Beller
**What’s Happening Around Columbian?**

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES ON MARCH 6TH AND 7TH**

Conferences will be held on Tuesday, March 6th and Wednesday, March 7th from 4:15 to 7:30 PM. There will be no school Thursday and Friday, March 8th and 9th.

**We will be using the same times as fall conferences unless there is a conflict.** Call (402) 697-1433 to schedule or change a time.

**BRRRR….IT’S COLD OUT THERE**

But we DO go outside for recess unless the temperature and winds are just too bitter. All students have a lunch recess and another one beyond the lunch recess.

Please make sure your child is coming to school dressed appropriately for the weather, long pants, sweatshirts, socks and closed-toed shoes. Appropriate dress includes winter coats, hats, gloves or mittens.

**THE NEXT COLUMBIAN PTO MEETING IS MONDAY, FEB 5TH**

The next PTO meeting will be held on Monday, February 5th in the library at 6 PM. Childcare for school age children is available – contact Kelly Dunning at Columbian.pto.kelly@gmail.com for more information.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM BEVERIDGE MAGNET SCHOOL**

Do you have a 5th or 6th grade student? If so, it is time to start thinking about where your child will attend middle school for the 2018-19 school year. Below you will find some important dates for those students and families that will attend Beveridge in the 2018-19 school year.

- **Monday, March 26, 2018-**Incoming Parent Information Night, 6:30 pm
- **Tuesday, April 10, 2018-**Registration (6th/7th grade), 5-7 pm
- **Thursday, April 12, 2018-**Registration (6th/7th grade), 5-7 pm
- **Thursday, April 19, 2018-**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 6-8 pm

**LIBRARY BOOK DONATIONS**

- **Jonah Kielion**, 1st grade, donated *Dog Man Unleashed* by Dav Pilkey
- **Mircalla McCune**, 2nd grade, donated *The Great Ice Engine* by Erica David, and *Cleopatra in Space* by Mike Maihack
- **Coen Schlagenhauff**, 2nd grade, donated *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen in honor of his Half-Birthday
- **Colin Kelln**, 3rd grade, donated *First Big Book of Space* by Catherine D. Hughes
- **Benjamin Eggley**, Kindergarten, donated *Go Sleep in Your Own Bed* by Candace Fleming to the library in honor of his birthday.

Thank you for supporting the School Library!