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GCCS Parents/Guardians:

This message serves to inform you of an important update from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) regarding student attendance.

Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, the IDOE is legally required to collect data on the types of absences being excused by schools. Schools still have the ability to excuse absences for the reasons defined in their student handbooks, but the IDOE must be given more specific information about the excused absences. This means that the school attendance clerks and administrators may need to ask you for more information so they may accurately code the excused reason in PowerSchool. You will also want to understand the codes as you will see the excused absence code in your parent portal.

Parents/guardians must communicate directly with the school within 24 hours of the absence in order for the school to excuse the absence.

IDOE Excused Attendance Title	PowerSchool Code	Definitions
Administrator Approved	EXA	Includes an absence from school that has been reviewed and authorized by a school administrator. The decision to approve is at the discretion of the school administrator, ensuring that the absence meets the criteria set forth by school policies.
Family Planned	EXFP	Includes an absence pre-arranged by the student's family for reasons such as vacations, family events, or other personal matters. This absence is generally considered a planned, non-emergency event that is scheduled in advance.
Family Unplanned	EXFU	Includes an absence that occurs unexpectedly due to unforeseen family circumstances or decisions such as a sudden emergency, an urgent need to attend to

		personal matters, weather, lack of transportation, or other impromptu situations. Even though the absence is not planned, it is still recognized by the school administration if it meets these criteria as determined by the school's policies.
Funeral/ Bereavement	EXD	Includes an absence due to the death of a close family member or loved one that requires a student to attend a funeral or engage in related mourning and family responsibilities. The absence is based on the student's need to grieve, support their family, or participate in funeral-related activities.
Medical	EXM	Includes an absence that occurs due to physical or mental illness, injury, or other health related conditions that require the student to seek treatment or recovery. This type of absence is excused when documented by a parent call in, a healthcare provider, or when the nature of the medical issue justifies the absence. The absence is approved based on the student's need for rest, medical care, or recovery that ensures the student's health and wellbeing are prioritized while maintaining compliance with school policies.
Religious	EXR	Includes an absence for the observance of religious holidays, practices, or events that are significant to the student's faith.

Greater Clark County Schools greatly appreciates your efforts to prioritize school attendance. Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Sincerely,



Mr. Mark Laughner
Superintendent