



**KIRKWOOD**  
**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
*Go Bobcats!*

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March 14, 2016

Dear Parents,

This letter is being written in regard to student attendance and the impact of missed school days on student success and school funding.

Students that miss school days are missing crucial instructional time and problem solving instruction opportunities that are difficult to replace. Missing these instructional days can lead to low test scores, poor grades, frustration and poor self-esteem.

School funding is based on Actual Daily Attendance (ADA) and not on enrollment. In other words, we only receive funding for the days that students actually attend school. For example, in 2014-15 we had an average enrollment of 102 but only had ADA of 92.62. This resulted in a loss of funding of approximately \$90,000. When a school the size of Kirkwood loses this amount of funding in a single year, it compromises programs and restricts the school from expanding on existing programs or introducing new enrichment programs.

As you can see, it is important for your child to be in school on all days in which he/she is not ill. This is the easiest way to increase funds for the school to allow us to do more for our students and to provide the highest quality education that they deserve. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation and help in this manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Burch". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John Burch  
Superintendent  
[jburch@kirkwoodschoollca.org](mailto:jburch@kirkwoodschoollca.org)

(The USDA and Kirkwood Elementary School District are equal opportunity providers and employers)