**SECOND SEMESTER**

January marks the beginning of our second semester.  Each year, during the second semester all schools experience an increase in absences and late arrivals, and a gradual decline in academic performance.  So prevalent is this trend, it has been referred to as the “Second Semester Slide”.  We are determined to improve this trend and **you the parents** can play a major role.  Absences and tardiness are two of the reasons that grades decline.  **Please be vigilant in making sure your student attends school every day and arrives on time**.  Your attention to this issue will have a positive effect on your student, reinforcing the importance you place on attendance.

To assure continued academic success and not fall victim to “Second Semester Slide”, **re-establish your student’s homework and study routine.  Help him/her to reclaim the space and time meant for this important purpose**.  Determine if any supplies or devices are needed.  They make great holiday gifts.  Also, **monitor your student’s grades, attendance, and classwork by accessing *Parent Portal*.**  Learn what tutoring and support opportunities are available here at school to improve results.  Again, your attention to your student’s school work will have a tremendous positive effect.  When students are prepared for class each day, they will attend each day, arrive on time, and perform with confidence.

These efforts;  **staying informed about your student’s progress**, **re-establishing a solid home-study routine**, and  **making certain that your student attends every day and arrives on time** will have an enormous positive result and help us all overcome “Second Semester Slide”.