

Stone Lake Elementary
A California Distinguished School
Hawker's Herald



Mark Beard, Principal

September 2025

Vanessa Bond, Vice Principal

Dear Stone Lake Families,

School has officially started! We have now welcomed all of our classes, all of our tracks, and everybody is now in the swing of things.

This is the second Hawker's Herald of the year, and I hope you take some time to read some of the quick articles.

September is Attendance Awareness Month, and there are multiple articles in this Herald about attendance. Here at Stone Lake, we continue to see way too many absences from students, and we hope that this trend reverses this year.

This Herald also talks about some parking struggles that we are having at our school, especially on Lakepoint. Our number one job as educators is to keep kids safe, and ALL of the teachers on duty around our school know that. We ask that our community support that endeavor and follow the rules in and around our school.

Respectfully,

Mark Beard

mhbeard@gusd.net

Important Dates



- 9/1 HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL**
- 9/4 FALL PICTURES – A Track , Pre- K , Levels Classes**
- 9/12 MINIMUM DAY/ TRACK CHANGE**
1-6: 8:30-12:45
ALL TK/KN : 8:20-11:51
- 9/25 8:10-2:45 4th grade A & D track Gold Bug Mine Fieldtrip**
- 9/26 8:45 – 11:51 KN D track Fog Willow Farms Fieldtrip**
- 9/30 10:00- 1:30 3rd grade A,B & D track EGHS Fieldtrip**

CHARACTER EDUCATION THEME:
ACCOUNTABLE

Reading Difficulties Screener

Kinder-Second Grade Students

CA ED CODE 53008: READING DIFFICULTIES SCREENER 2025-26

Elk Grove Unified School District



WHAT IS THE SCREENER?

In 2025, a new state education law was passed requiring all CA school districts to screen all kindergarten, first grade, and second grade students for risk of reading difficulties starting in the 2025-26 school year. This school year, EGUSD will implement the Multitudes screener for all students in those grades about midway through the school year. It is a quick, one-on-one assessment of critical areas of reading and language.

CHECK OUT THE VIDEO WITH
MORE INFO BELOW:



BENEFITS

The results of the screener will be used to help teachers and school staff to know what additional reading supports to provide to students. These earlier interventions may prevent future reading difficulties and special education needs.

EXCEPTIONS

Students will not have to take the screener if:

- they are on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for reading or being tested for one.
- their parent/guardian opts out of the screener (form available in the school office).
- they do not currently have proficiency in English or Spanish (an alternative screening process will take place).

SCREENER RESULTS

- Will be shared with families within 45 calendar days
- Will NOT be used to for diagnosis of a learning disability, special education identification, student reclassification or retention, or on the student report card

FOR MORE INFORMATION

ATTEND A FAMILY INFO SESSION

11/5/25: 5-6 pm
or
12/4/25: 6-7pm

Zoom: <https://egusd-net.zoom.us/j/86705953679>
Meeting ID: 867 0595 3679

CLICK ON THE QR CODE FOR
AN FAQ SHEET



September is Attendance Awareness Month



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

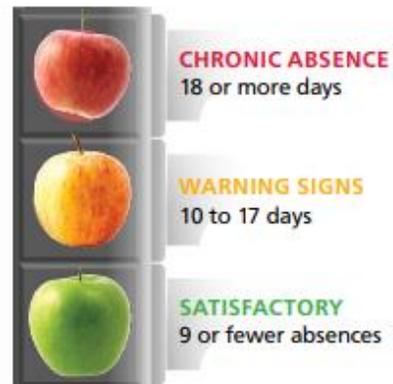
- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have a contagious illness, call your school or health care provider for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!

Lakepoint Parking Struggles

We need your help!!!

Below, you see three pictures of Lakepoint Drive. The top left picture shows our bus zone. There is no parking or stopping in this zone during school hours. We have at least five busses that use this area each day, and it needs to stay clear.

The top right picture shows the red zone that is on the south side of Lakepoint. This is a red zone to help traffic leaving out of the neighborhood to have a clear view of oncoming traffic. In addition, this is painted red to help pedestrians crossing the crosswalk to be able to see traffic this is approaching.

The picture on the bottom left shows the red zone on the north side of Lakepoint. This is a red zone to once again help pedestrians that are crossing at the crosswalk to be able to see oncoming traffic.

Please help us keep everybody safe and do not park in these zones.



5th Grade Comprehensive Sexual Health Education

Part of 5th grade curriculum is teaching Sexual Health Education. This does not take place in our classes until Spring, and our 5th grade teachers ALWAYS notify families before it starts.

I did want to share the following link with families that will give you more information about EGUSD Comprehensive Sexual Health Education:

<https://sites.google.com/egusd.net/comprehensive-sexual-health/cshe-home>

The following gives information about upcoming Community Nights (the links below are not live).

2025-2026 Annual Parent/Guardian Community Information Nights

The Elk Grove Unified School District offers Comprehensive Sexual Health Education to students enrolled in 5th grade, Science 7, and High School Health.

In compliance with California Education Code, Section 51938, you are invited to attend a Parent/Guardian Information Night to learn about the instructional requirements of comprehensive sexual health education and the adopted curriculum.

If you have any questions, please contact your site Administrator.

Tuesday
September 16, 2025

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

[Click here to join Zoom Webinar](#)

Tuesday
January 20, 2026

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

[Click here to join Zoom Webinar](#)

Thursday
February 19, 2026

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

[Click here to join Zoom Webinar](#)

Chromebook Tech Capabilities That Parents Should Know

As our district, and many districts around the nation, have entered into a tech heavy learning environment, it has definitely created some struggles for teachers and parents.

I wanted to make sure and share some capabilities of the Chromebooks that allow your children to interact with each other 24 hours a day 7 days a week if not monitored. Often teachers have students create Google documents or Google slides. Both of these have the capabilities to be shared with classmates. Once they are shared with classmates, students can use this as a way to communicate with each other. This communication can happen during the day (without the teacher knowing), and it can also happen at home (without parents knowing).

Students are also able to email one another via Synergy. They are also able to email school staff. I have received Synergy emails from students asking questions about our school.

While I am sure most of you know this information, I am sure that some do not know about this. Therefore, I am hoping to periodically share this information with staff. I have instructed our staff to make sure that this information is included in their Back to School Night presentations as well.

Basketball Coaches Needed

If you are interested in coaching either our boys basketball team or our girls basketball team, send me an email. Both of these teams are for our 5th and 6th grade students, and the season starts in January and usually lasts about a month.

Please reach out to me if you are interested. mhbeard@egusd.net

EGUSD Incident Reporting System

Elk Grove Unified School District's online Incident Reporting System continues to be active, even during distance learning. EGUSD encourages students, parents and community members that "if you SEE something, or KNOW something, to SAY something." In addition to being able to tell a teacher or school official, file a hand-written report or inform the District's Safety and Security Department, parents and students in the communities of Elk Grove Unified now have access to an online incident reporting tool for reporting any one of these four types of incidents 24/7:

- Bullying - Bullying includes verbal, non-verbal, physical or emotional acts against another student either in person, via electronic device or online.
- Damage or Harm to School or Property - Damage or harm to school property includes intentional destruction to the school or school property in a harmful or malicious manner.
- Discrimination or Harassment - Discrimination or Harassment includes acts against another person on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, age, or personal beliefs either in person, via electronic device or online.
- Harm to Self or Others - Harm includes intent or desire to injure yourself or others.

EGUSD is focused on providing multiple systems of support for the wellness of all students. In addition to the District's awareness campaign for helping students gain access to mental health services, this online incident reporting system is another form of support that District leaders and staff hope will help students maintain Healthy Body, Healthy Learning and Healthy Mind.

<https://mobile.catapultems.com/elkgroveusd/sle/Report>

PBIS at Stone Lake for September

This monthly part of the Herald will include information about PBIS at Stone Lake, and it comes from the desk of our VP, Mrs. Bond.

PBIS Newsletter

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

We are excited about the new school year! Remember, the new school year is a blank canvas - let's fill it with colorful experiences, meaningful connections, and the joy of learning!

What is PBIS?

- Introducing, modeling, and reinforcing positive behavior
- Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students for following them
- The purpose of school-wide PBIS is to reinforce our climate in which appropriate behavior is the norm.

Who is PBIS for?

- Every student on campus
- enables most (80% or more) students to experience success

Where can you see PBIS being implemented?

- Passport stations at the beginning of the school year
- signs across the campus
- Monday Morning Announcements
- HAWK ticket parties
- Prize Trolley
- Spirit Assemblies
- In the classroom
- Monthly Character Trait Rally (NEW!)

ELAC at Stone Lake for September

When you walk the grounds of Stone Lake, you see the diversity of our students, and if you listen to many of our students, you will also hear the dozens of languages that are also spoken at our school. Our ELAC is headed by our VP, Mrs. Bond, and she will be sharing information about our ELAC in each of our Hawker's Hearalds.

ELAC Newsletter

English Language Advisory Committee

Purpose of ELAC for parents

- Provide advice to the principal and school staff to improve learning for multilingual students
- To learn more about programs offered to students
- To talk about the importance of attendance
- Voice concerns
- Share ideas with other parents
- Participate in the school-wide survey about needs and wants for your multilingual student(s)

Designated English Language Development

- Multilingual learners are working with the teacher in a small group
- 30 minutes a day
- Students get small group instruction on skills they need extra instruction and practice with

Current Plan

- Pinpoint where students need extra support
- Use designated English Language Development time to give extra support to students
- Use strategies throughout the lessons to support our multilingual students in mastering the skills being taught

1st ELAC Meeting

- September 18, 2025
- 5:30
- Zoom Link:
<https://egusd-net.zoom.us/j/85288813190>
- Meeting ID: 852 8881 3190

Integrated English Language Development

Supports used during lessons to help practice and master the skills that are being taught.

Student/Parent Chromebook Agreement



EGUSD Chromebook Agreement

EGUSD provides Chromebooks for all students in grades 1-12. Chromebooks have become critical for instruction and are to be treated like instructional materials. Students are to bring Chromebooks to and from school every day, just like books. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure the Chromebook is fully charged each day. As with any borrowed school property (textbook or sports equipment), the Chromebook checked out to the student is the responsibility of the legal parents/guardians and the student to ensure the safety and security of the device at home. In instances of non-normal wear and tear, the family may be charged for repairs and/or replacement. **The legal parents/guardians and the student are responsible to work with the school site to recover the cost of repair or replacement (BP 6163.4 and AR 5125.2). When directed by the school site or prior to unenrolling a student from the District, the Chromebook must be returned in similar condition to which it was received.**

Please carefully review the [Responsible Use and Care Guidelines](#) listed below:

Responsibility & Care of EGUSD Technology Equipment

- Make the Chromebook available to any teacher or school administrator for inspection.
- Report to a teacher or school administration any inappropriate communications while using the Chromebook.
- Keep the Chromebook free of any physical damage, writing, drawing, stickers, or non-EGUSD labels.
- Never leave the Chromebook in unsupervised areas, to prevent devices from being damaged or stolen.
- Always log out, turn off, and secure the Chromebook to protect student work/information.
- Never, under any circumstances, attempt to gain access to another student's accounts, files, and/or data.
- Never attempt to bypass District security, filters, and/or safeguards on the device.
- Only use a clean, dry, soft cloth to clean the screen and/or keyboard; no cleansers or liquids of any type.
- Never place liquid near the Chromebook to avoid causing accidental liquid damage.
- Use care when transporting the Chromebook in a bag or backpack to avoid damaging the Chromebook.

Legal Parent/Guardian's Responsibility for Using EGUSD Devices at Home

EGUSD has deployed Internet content filtering on district devices in the interest of keeping harmful and inappropriate content from being accessed. No Internet content filtering solution is perfect, at times it may be possible for users to access information that is intended for adults.

- Talk to your children about values and the standards they should follow on the use of the Internet, just as you do on the use of all media information sources such as television, telephones, movies, and radio.
- Regularly monitor your student's device use and Internet activity to ensure only appropriate content is being accessed.
- Ensure your child is maintaining the safety and security of the assigned EGUSD devices and using them responsibly.

Malfunction, Damage, Loss & Theft

- Any EGUSD issued devices that malfunction or are damaged must be immediately reported to the school site or the support number below for instructions, drop-off, repair, and loaner check-out. Students and legal parents/guardians will not be held responsible for any pre-existing damage (small scratches, minor dings, etc.).
- Any EGUSD issued devices that are lost or stolen must be immediately reported to the school site or the number below. Devices that are lost or stolen will result in an initial conversation with school staff, students, and/or parents/guardians. *Determination on continued access thereafter will be made on a case-by-case basis.*

Student Technology Equipment Support

Reach out via the information below if any EGUSD technology issued devices malfunction, become damaged, are lost, or stolen.

For any EGUSD curriculum support and learning opportunities, please work with your student's teacher.

- Email: stusupport@egUSD.net
- Phone: (916) 686-0245 (Note: This is a limited support number and you may need to leave a voicemail with a call back number.)

By receiving an EGUSD Chromebook, the legal parents/guardians and the student agree to the terms of this Chromebook Agreement. All EGUSD issued technology equipment is the property of EGUSD and all borrowers will follow the Student Technology Acceptable User Agreement (BP 6163.4 and E 6163.4).

Coffee Klatches

Stone Lake Administration will be holding meetings with parents to discuss what is happening at Stone Lake and provide all parents the opportunity to connect with the administrative team. We will continue to hold the meetings via Zoom and have them occur in the evening. This is a great forum for parents to ask questions and connect with other parents. Below is the schedule for this year's Coffee Klatches. Please mark your calendars for the dates and times that work for you.

Oct 6th: 6:00 P.M.

Nov 3rd: 6:00 P.M.

Jan 5th: 6:00 P.M.

Feb 2nd: 6:00 P.M.

March 2nd: 6:00 P.M.

Apr 6th: 6:00 P.M.

May 4th: 6:00 P.M.

Jun 1st: 6:00 P.M.

25-26 EGUSD Calendar

<https://d16k74nzx9emoe.cloudfront.net/2678c0af-f941-42f5-a769-b1e6c4789416.pdf>

PTO Corner

Welcome back to our A track families! A track PTO membership drive is underway! We have Ms. Stoval in the lead with Mrs. Houston close behind! A Track Membership drive contest for pizza and popsicles ends THIS FRIDAY 9/5! A big thank you to everyone that has supported Stone Lake by joining the PTO!!! These funds go directly to incredible efforts like in class theater instruction, school events, student rewards, and so much more. We couldn't do it without you!

Also, a big shout out to the parents/caregivers that joined us for our first ever PTO sponsored grown-ups only trivia night! It was a great time connecting with friends and new faces.

🍁 Up next we have our **Fall Festival** which is just around the corner **October 24 from 5-7:30 pm!**

This year we hope to make it *bigger and better* and we need some help! Please consider donating or volunteering, click to see what opportunities are available: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805054EAAAB2EA31-58355607-2025>

Save the date:

9/9 PTO General Meeting 6:30pm

<https://zoom.us/j/96643321919?pwd=LPQ1o3WeS0DeFQT1pXpvtjblCvldll.1>

Meeting ID: 966 4332 1919

Passcode: Hawks

9/12 Chuck E Cheese Dinner Night Out! Join us anytime between 11am-10pm

10/24 Fall Festival 5-7:30pm

Student Perspective Survey Results-Part II

Last year our 5th and 6th grade students took the Student Perspective Survey. This survey is broken into multiple sections, but there are main components: Climate, Classroom Conditions, and Social Emotional Learning.

Over the next few months, I will share these results of this survey via the Hawker's Herald and also talk about them during our monthly parent meetings.

For the purposes of reading this table, the N=Number of students taking the survey.
FAV=Favorable responses to the questions.

Component	Subcomponent	Item	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
			N	Fav	N	Fav	N	Fav
Climate	Safety	During the past 12 months, how many times on school property have you been made fun of because of your looks or the way you talk?	N/A	N/A	1	100%	N/A	N/A
		Do other kids at school spread mean rumors or lies about you?	209	60%	175	61%	191	66%
		Do other kids at this school ever tease you about what your body looks like?	209	70%	174	61%	192	66%
		Do other kids hit or push you at school when they are not just playing around?	209	69%	175	75%	191	81%
		Do other kids steal or damage your things, like your clothing or your books?	209	78%	175	79%	192	78%
		Have you ever had your feelings hurt in this class?	207	36%	174	33%	188	36%
		Have you ever had your feelings hurt on campus?	205	32%	175	33%	191	34%
Classroom Conditions	Overall	ALL	206	75%	174	72%	192	77%
	Academic Connection	ALL	203	78%	174	74%	192	80%
		Do you always know what you should be doing and learning in this class?	201	89%	173	86%	189	93%
		Do your classmates behave the way your teacher wants them to?	203	48%	174	43%	192	51%
		Does your teacher challenge you to think?	203	81%	173	79%	191	81%
		Does your teacher encourage you to give your best effort?	202	91%	173	90%	188	94%
		Is time used efficiently in this class?	202	81%	173	73%	189	80%
	Curricular Connection	ALL	205	70%	174	69%	192	71%
		Are the lessons in this class interesting?	204	52%	172	52%	192	55%
		Do you feel comfortable asking your teacher for help?	204	75%	174	74%	192	74%
		Do you find the activities in this class meaningful?	204	67%	171	68%	192	72%
		Does your teacher explain connections between current lessons and previous lessons?	204	77%	173	71%	192	72%
		Does your teacher explain difficult things clearly?	202	76%	174	76%	192	77%
		Does your teacher summarize what you learn each day?	204	64%	172	63%	192	65%
		If you don't understand something, does your teacher explain it another way?	203	77%	174	79%	191	82%
	Personal Connection	ALL	205	78%	173	75%	192	82%
		Do you believe that your teacher cares about you?	205	86%	173	84%	192	90%
		Does your teacher care about your feelings or goals?	204	89%	171	87%	192	90%
		Does your teacher teach you how to work on your feelings or be kind to others in class?	205	80%	172	73%	192	77%
		Do you feel like you have input on what happens in class?	205	60%	168	57%	192	68%
		Does your teacher ask you to explain your ideas?	202	78%	173	75%	190	83%
Does your teacher care about your social-emotional wellbeing?		N/A	N/A	1	100%	N/A	N/A	

6th Grade Science Camp-Last Year

Our 6th graders will once again be heading to the Marin Headlands for their sixth-grade trip, but this will be the last year for the trip here at Stone Lake.

There are multiple reasons that this will be the last year for the trip, but needless to say I know that there will be some disappointed future sixth graders.

Our future sixth grade students will get an amazing experience in sixth grade, with the team planning multiple day field trips instead of the one big overnight field trip.

Talking Points and Absences

We want to make reporting absences as easy as possible for families. This year parents are able to respond to my Talking Points thread to share a student absence. Doing this provides you the opportunity to report and share the absence, and it also allows the school to quickly input the absence, thus allowing the office to forgo calling home to verify the reason for the absence.

Attendance Matters

Please take a look at the following diagram to help guide you as we head towards the cold and flu season.



The infographic is a dark blue rectangular box with a dashed white border. It is divided into two main columns. The left column is headed 'See You in Class!' with a thumbs-up icon. It lists three criteria for attending class, each with a checkmark icon. Below the list is a horizontal line, followed by the text 'Heading to class! What should I know?' and 'ATTENDANCE MATTERS!' in large white letters. Underneath that is the equation 'Consistent Attendance = Academic Success!'. The right column is headed 'Best to Stay Home.' with a thumbs-down icon. It lists six criteria for staying home, each with a checkmark icon. Below the list is a horizontal line, followed by the text 'My student is staying home. What should I do next?' and a two-step numbered list. At the bottom of the infographic are four logos: a heart made of hands, Health Services, Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD), and Educational Equity.

See You in Class!

- Have a runny nose or a little cough, but no other symptoms
- No fever (temperature of 100 or higher) for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications
- No throwing up or diarrhea for 24 hours

Heading to class!
What should I know?

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Consistent Attendance
=
Academic Success!

STRONG FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BENEFITS

HEALTH SERVICES
HEALTHY - SAFE - READY TO LEARN

Best to Stay Home.

- Temperature higher than 100 (with or without medicine)
- Persistent cough
- Colored drainage from the nose
- Throwing up or diarrhea
- Eyes are pink and crusty
- Instructed by the doctor to isolate from others

My student is staying home.
What should I do next?

- 1** Notify the school by phone or email.
If possible, let us know before 9am on the day of the absence.
- 2** Repeat this checklist every morning. We hope to see your student back soon!

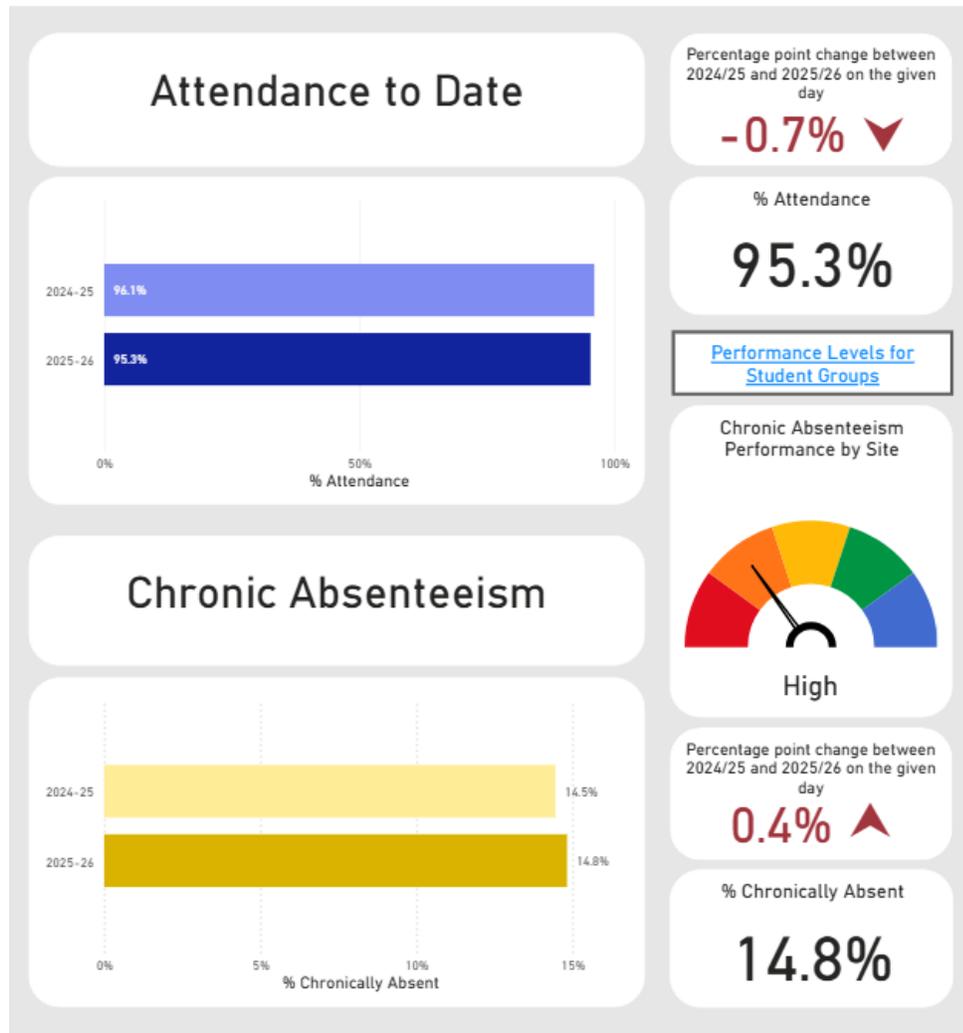
Elk Grove Unified School District

Attendance Numbers

Attendance continues to be a focus at Stone Lake over the last few years. I have often discussed attendance during awards assemblies, Coffee Klatch meetings, or anytime I have a parent audience. In order for students to learn, they have to be in school! The start to this year does not look good so far.

Parents, we need your help. This is a nationwide epidemic that is impacting students. Students need to be at school when they are healthy and well. Plan vacations around the multiple long vacation times that year around schools provide your family.

Current Stone Lake Attendance Dashboard as of 9/1/25:



***Chronic absenteeism is defined as a student that misses 10% or more of their enrolled school days regardless of the reason, excused or not excused.**

Library Books at Stone Lake

I wanted to share with parents some information about our library.

Stone Lake families can access and search the exact books that we have in our library. This can be done by following these steps:

- 1. Go to the EGUSD website**
- 2. Click on “EGSUD Portal” at top of the page or access the portal from our website**
- 3. Login with your child’s login information**
- 4. Find and click on the Follett Catalog**
- 5. Browse by keywords, titles, author, etc.**
- 6. In the upper left-hand corner, one may click “Destiny Discover” to get to a page that randomly highlights 15 of the most recently added library books along with other highlighted books.**

I hope this information proves useful to both parents and students.

