



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

**Diana Becton**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Attending school regularly is an important part of the learning process and an indicator of school achievement. For those reasons, California law *requires* every child from the ages of six to eighteen to attend school.

You might wonder why the Contra Costa District Attorney is writing you rather than a school official. The reason is simple. I don't need anymore business prosecuting juveniles and adults, and I want your children to be successful. **Parents of school-aged children are responsible for their children's attendance in a full time, educational program.** Three or more unexcused absences can result in your child being recorded as "truant," and can result in your child being referred to the School Principal, the District Superintendent, and/or the District Attorney's Office. The District Attorney's Office may prosecute parents and child in court for the child's failure to regularly attend school.

The District Attorney's Office knows that, quite often, children who do not attend school run the very real risk of either committing crimes or becoming the victims of crime, and those students who do not graduate from high school will find it difficult to find jobs or succeed in life.

Your school is here to help your child learn. With support, encouragement, advice, and consequences, your child can thrive, and will also learn that discipline, hard work, and studying pays off.

Please make every effort to ensure your child's attendance at school, and help them to get to school **on time and every day**. Your efforts will make a difference to your child.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Delehunt".

Laura Delehunt  
District Attorney  
Contra Costa County  
(925) 957-8713