

Everybody, Every Day!

Volusia County Schools School Social Services Attendance Committee announces a Poem, Poster, and Rap/Song Video Contest



1st Place = \$50

2nd Place = \$25

3rd Place = \$15

*Elementary, middle, and high school levels
will each have a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner.*



POEM

Poems must be **typewritten** on standard 8½ x 11 unfolded paper.

POSTER

Posters are to include the slogan “**Everybody Every Day**” and/or the “**E logo**” (symbol located at the top left of this page), and must be submitted on **unfolded** art paper.

The **size** of the paper is not to be smaller than **8½ x 11** or larger than **12 x 16**.

Computer generated art must not be “clip art” or “cut and paste”.

RAP/SONG VIDEO

Raps/songs must include a video performance of the student(s) and produced by the student(s).

No copyrighted music allowed. Videos must be less than three minutes in length.

Raps/songs can be performed by an individual or group. Students may submit their entry via DVD or upload to a video-sharing website (i.e. YouTube).

Each winning entry will receive the award.

Deadline for entry is October 31, 2017

RULES: Only students enrolled in Volusia County Public Schools may submit an entry. Poems, posters, and video rap/songs must have a theme of the importance of school attendance and education. Students may only submit one entry. All entries must be original work. **Poems, posters, and video rap/songs must be identified with the name, school, and grade of the student(s).** All entries must be screened for appropriate content and rule compliance. Entries not meeting the above eligibility requirements may be disqualified. Winning entries will be recognized by their schools, district administration, and school social work staff.

School staff must place the entries in manila envelopes and send by county mail to:

Melissa Burke, EDC@Atlantic High School, Portable 5

Suggested Activities for Attendance Awareness Month

1. Recognize the class and teacher with the highest attendance rate each day or at the end of the week.
2. Place a statement regarding attendance week on the marquee at the front of the school.

For the week of September 4, 2017, use this statement:

- We Want You Here, Today and Every Day

For the week of September 11, 2017, use this statement:

- Your Class Is Not Complete Without You

For the week of September 18, 2017, use this statement:

- Attendance Is The Key To Your Success

For the week of September 25, 2017, use this statement:

- Be There - Everybody Every Day

3. Use open house to speak with parents about the importance of school attendance and making sure absences don't add up. Show the *Bringing Attendance Home* video and share the attendance works flyers on how parents can build good attendance habits for their child(ren).
4. Invite someone from the community or school district to speak to students about the importance of school attendance.
5. Invite your school's PTA to participate by sponsoring some type of activity or recognition during the month.
6. Invite your school's business partners to participate by sponsoring an activity or providing incentives during the month.
7. Recognize individual students with perfect attendance.
8. Recognize individual teachers/school support staff who are influential in encouraging students to attend school regularly.
9. Acknowledge the efforts and contributions of the school's attendance clerk in encouraging regular school attendance.
10. Recognize students who have shown a significant improvement in their school attendance.
11. Principals make weekly announcements and implement weekly incentives and rewards during the month of September which emphasize the importance of school attendance.
12. Principals place an article in school newsletters, school webpage, social media and/or share PSA videos about the importance of school attendance.
13. Encourage ALL students to enter the Everybody Every Day Poem, Poster, Rap/Song Video. **Deadline for submission is 10/31/17.**

Note: Utilize the *Achieving Academic Excellence Through Regular School Attendance* booklet created by the School Social Services Attendance Committee for more activities.

District Attendance Initiatives 2017-2018

National/District Goal is to decrease chronic absenteeism by 10% each year

1. September-Attendance Awareness Month

This is an opportunity for schools, parents, and the community to highlight the importance of attendance and its role in academic achievement and the effects of chronic absenteeism.

2. Everybody Every Day: Poem, Poster and Video Rap/Song Contest

All students will have the opportunity to create poems, posters, and rap videos showing why attendance is important to education and school achievement. This initiative begins in September and submissions are due **October 31, 2017**.

Recognition of Winners: Students receiving awards in the Everybody Every Day Attendance Contest will be recognized by their schools, district administration, and school social work staff. Students will also receive a certificate. The Everybody Every Day Awards Team will come to each school of the winners to reward them.

3. Shirley H. Lee Community Support for School Attendance Award: This award is given to an individual who has exhibited an exemplary personal commitment to promoting regular school attendance. This person has served as an advocate and/or mentor and has given of his time and/or resources to enhance the academic success of a student(s) through encouraging daily attendance. See Nomination Rules Form. This initiative begins in September and submissions are due **October 31, 2017**.

4. Excellence in Attendance Award

At the end of each semester, the schools with the highest attendance rate at the elementary, middle, high school, and alternative education levels will receive a certificate for their *Excellence in Attendance*.

5. Superintendent's Attendance Challenge Award

This award will be given to the top schools at each level achieving the highest reduction in chronic absenteeism during the third nine-weeks of the 2016-2017 school year. The school achieving first place will receive \$500; the school achieving second place will receive \$250; and the school achieving third place will receive \$125. The school achieving first place will also receive a district banner to display at their school. Schools may participate in a duel challenge and the winner will be awarded \$25. Participating schools are encouraged to research ideas, seek input, and develop strategies prior to the start of the challenge. The district Attendance Committee will be providing guidelines for the challenge.

6. Perfect Attendance Awards

Students who achieve perfect attendance for the school year, which is defined as accruing no absences from school, tardies to school/class, or early checkouts from school beginning the first day of the school year to the last, will be awarded with Perfect Attendance Certificates from the district at the beginning of the following school year (students who enroll in VCS after the first day of school are ineligible). For graduating seniors with perfect attendance, they will be awarded Perfect Attendance Certificates during the 4th quarter of the current school year.



Nominate an Outstanding Individual to Receive the

Shirley H. Lee

Community Support for School Attendance Award

This award is given to an individual who has exhibited an exemplary personal commitment to promoting regular school attendance. This person has served as an advocate and/or mentor and has given of his time and/or resources to enhance the academic success of a student(s) through encouraging daily attendance. Nominees can include school faculty and staff (i.e., administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, cafeteria workers, office specialists, and support personnel), parents, volunteers, business partners, or members of the community.

The winner of this prestigious award will be notified of their selection by the School Social Work Department and will receive a plaque. This award is named in honor of Shirley H. Lee, the first supervisor of School Social Services. After serving 18 years in that capacity, she continues to support the department's attendance initiatives. Due to her lifelong dedication to children and education, Mrs. Lee has earned the distinct honor of having this award presented in her name.

RULES

1. Nominations must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 31, 2017.
2. *Do not submit supplementary information*, as it will NOT be considered.
3. Nomination form must be filled out completely and legibly.
4. An incomplete or unsigned nomination form will be disqualified.
5. Nomination forms become the property of the Attendance Committee.
6. Selection Committee decisions are final.

(School Social Workers and members of the district Attendance Committee are ineligible to receive this award.)

2017-2018
 Shirley H. Lee Community Support for School Attendance Award
 Nomination Form

Name of Nominee:			
Agency/Affiliation:			
Address:			
Phone:		E-mail:	

Please select the category of your nominee:

Check only one:	<input type="checkbox"/> Faculty or Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer
	<input type="checkbox"/> Business partner	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Please provide the following information regarding your nominee.

1. Describe the outstanding activity/activities performed by the nominee.

2. What was the impact of the nominee's activity upon the student/students?

3. Tell us a little about why you feel this person deserves an award for providing outstanding support for school attendance. (Include any interesting or unusual information about the nominee. Attach an additional sheet of paper if needed.)

Nominator's Signature: _____ Date Submitted: _____

Nominator's Phone Number: _____

Please forward all nominations via truck mail, fax, or e-mail by October 31, 2017

Mail to: Teresa Wright, School Social Worker, Deland Middle School

Fax: (386) 763-3783

E-mail: tlwright@volusia.k12.fl.us