Dear Parents,

You woke up late and you wonder if you should take your child to school. After all, what is one absence? Does it really matter? The answer is "YES". What your child misses in one day is hard to make up. We are over half way through the school year now. It is very important that your child be in school unless of sickness. It is a challenge to get a family out the door on time. These suggestions might be helpful:

- 1. Get ready the night before. Lay out what your child will wear. Make sure that everything that is needed for school is ready.
- 2. Establish routines. Create a chart of the things your child needs to do each day. When it is a routine, there is less arguing.
- 3. Allow for extra time. Set your alarm clock a few minutes early. Allow yourself an extra five or ten minutes to get your child to school.
- 4. Talk with your child about why it is important to attend school regularly.
- 5. Make sure your child stays healthy by eating nutritious food and getting enough sleep and exercise.
- 6. Lead by example. If children see parents taking off work for no real reason, they may expect to be able to do the same thing.

I will be in my room Monday, March 5, 2012, from 6:15 PM until 6:45 PM. (This is PTT/SAT meeting night.) If you have any concerns or suggestions as to how I can better serve you child more productively, please come to see me. I can also be reached by phone during the school day if that is more convenient. My goal is to help your child be successful.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Donna Johnson