

Attendance Matters Bus Data Update January 2020

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Establishment:

With chronic absenteeism an issue in many schools, KHS included, the SSP team at KHS discussed a number of possible interventions in order to alleviate this issue with our students. These ideas were presented to the District Attendance Team and the Attendance Matters Bus was deemed an initiative that was both congruous with our present initiatives as well as an intervention we could implement quickly.



The “Attendance Matters Bus” was established in the winter of 2018, with the first bus running on 2/1/18. Since that time the bus has operated during the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 academic year. The Bus is funded through the Alliance grant.

Rationale:

The correlation between student success and attendance is undisputed. In addition, the reality is that many of our students have circumstances that impact their attendance in school.



After many other Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions have been attempted, the Tier 3 intervention of the Attendance Matters Bus can be a successful tool in improving the attendance of chronically absent students.

District Cost:

The “Attendance Matters Bus” was established in the winter of 2018 and has operated during the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 Academic year. The Bus is funded through the Alliance grant.

The full cost of the attendance bus through the Alliance grant for 2018-2019 was \$2,309.51 for driver’s salaries. Vehicle cost is \$0.75 per mile at 20 miles per week. This yields a vehicle cost of \$15.00 per week or \$600.00 per year.

2018-2019 total= \$2,609.51*



Our projected spending for 2019-2020 is approximately \$2,600 for driver’s salaries funded through Alliance. Vehicle cost is \$0.75 per mile at 20 miles per week. This yields a vehicle cost of \$15.00 per week or \$600.00 per year.

2019-2020 total= \$3,200*

Additionally, the staff cost is 45 minutes of High School staff time per day when the bus runs.

*Miles per week estimated

Process:

- The data which is used to identify chronically absent students is reviewed every Wednesday in SSP. Students are kept on the list, added to the list or removed based on this discussion. These students will be the focus for the following week (Thursday, Friday, Monday, Tuesday)
- The attendance secretary is informed of the students on this list. Each morning, she cross references the identified students with the absence list to see if an identified student is absent. She gives this final list to office staff. ● ● ●
- Office staff calls the homes of these absent students to inform home that the bus will be coming.
- The scheduled staff member(s) take this list as well as the calling card in case no one is home. They then take the bus to the students' homes.
- During the ride, the staff member gathers the data to record upon the bus' return.
- The following Wednesday during SSP the process begins again.

Additional Facts:

- Average Number of Students Targeted Per Week: 20
- Total Number of Unique Students Identified: About 40 (Many students remain on the list due to effective intervention).
- Overall Time frame: The bus began running on 2/1/18. It runs on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with the exception of ERD, canceled and delayed days.



- Daily Timing: Generally the bus run takes 45 minutes start to finish.
- Staff Who Ride: Administrators and counseling staff. With few exceptions, two staff members ride each time.

What Have We Learned?

- Relationships matter: The time spent with these students, has yielded more productive conversations and more trust with adults at KHS.
- The process is as important as the intervention: Surprisingly, the most significant result was that the identified students just started coming to school (76%) because they had been identified.
- It empowers, it doesn't enable: The preponderance of students have responded by being in school more without using the Attendance Matters Bus rather than continuing to use it as a crutch.

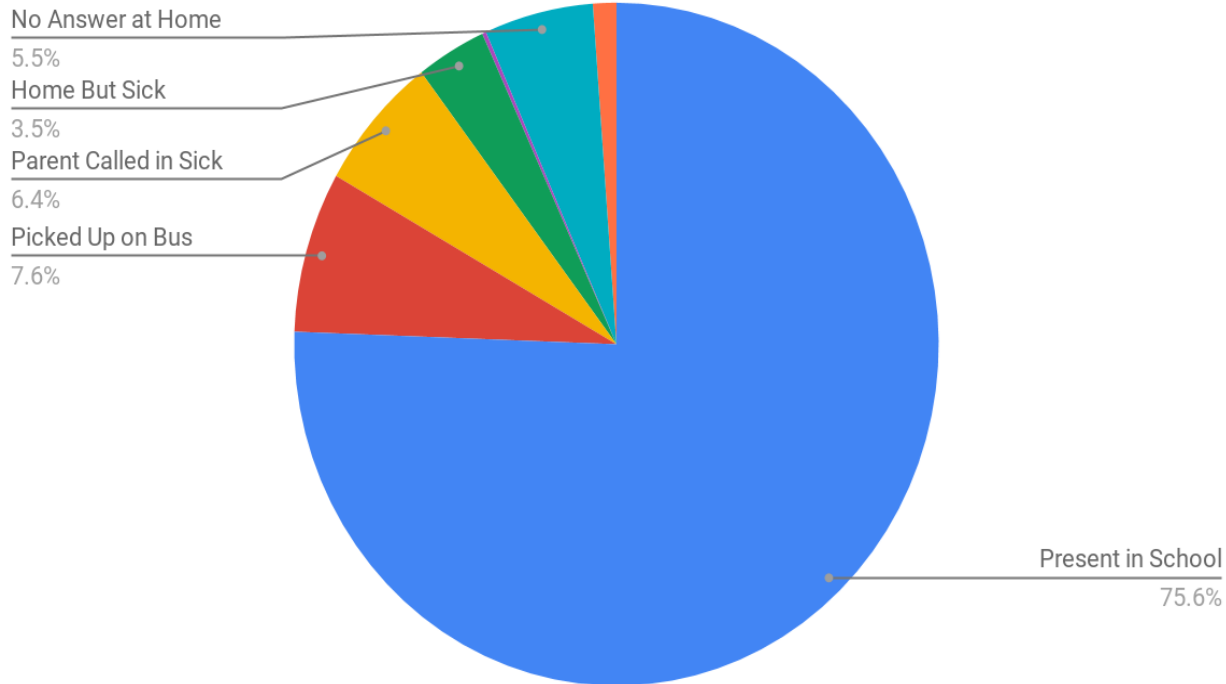


- Home/School Connection: Having multiple staff members out in the community, seeing where our students live and visiting their homes has built mutual understanding, care and a more significant home/school partnership.
- Attendance and Communication Improved: Students who are present or whose parent communicated with the school accounted for 89.6% of the results. Only 10.4% of the time did the school not hear from a parent and the bus tried to pick up a student with no result.

2017-2018 Attendance Bus Data

LEGEND

Attendance Bus Data 2017-2018



BLUE: These students were present in school on the day of the intervention.

RED: The bus picked up these students.

YELLOW: Parent called this student in sick.

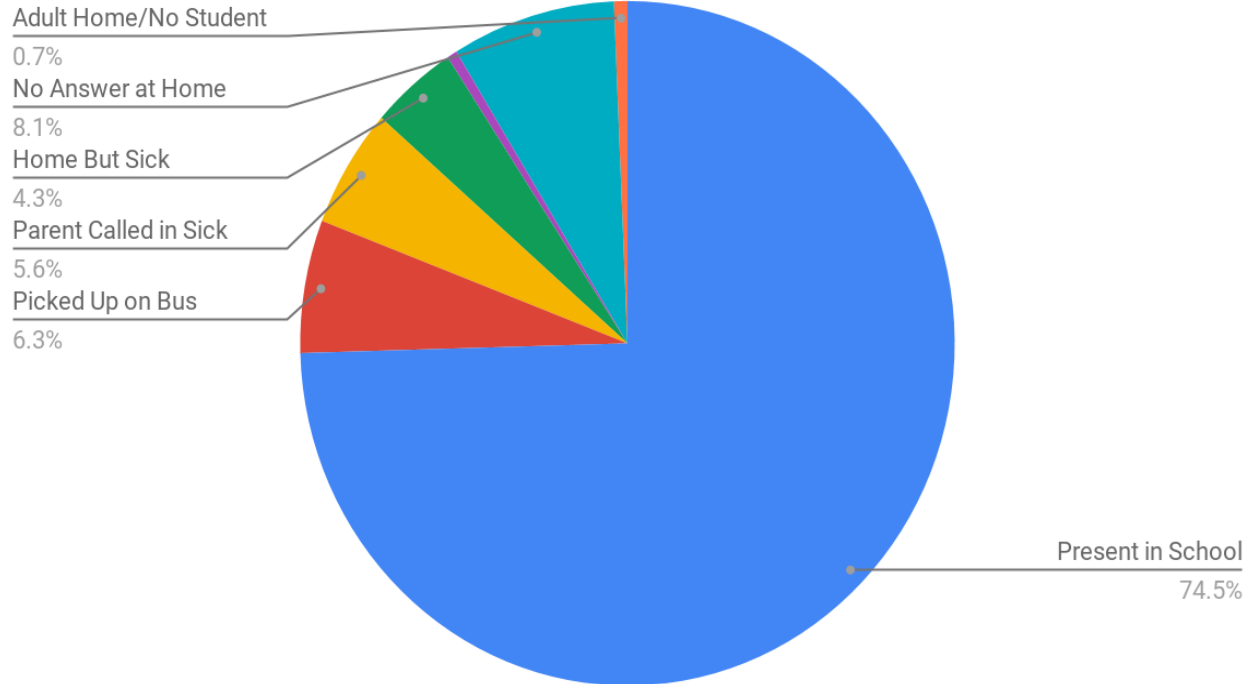
GREEN: Bus visited but no one was home.

PURPLE: Bus visited. Adult was home but no student was present.

2018-2019 Attendance Bus Data

LEGEND

Attendance Bus Data 2018-2019



BLUE: These students were present in school on the day of the intervention.

RED: The bus picked up these students.

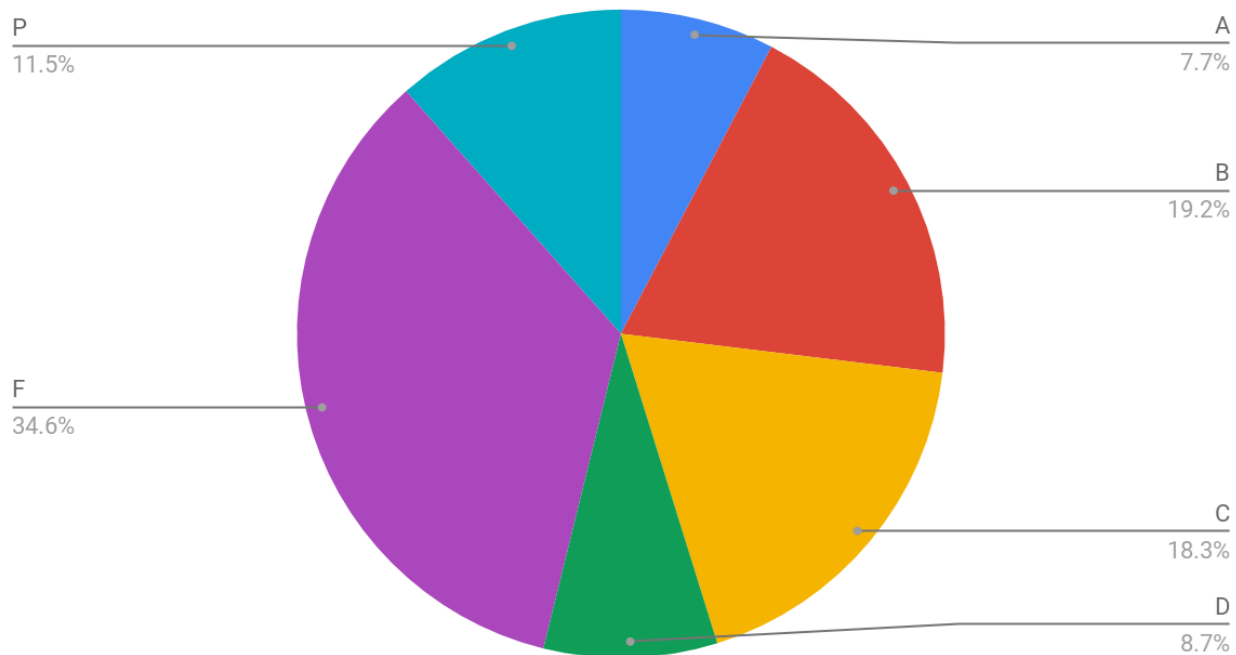
YELLOW: Parent called this student in sick.

GREEN: Bus visited but no one was home.

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Final Academic Grade Distribution 2018-2019

Final Grade Distribution 2018-2019



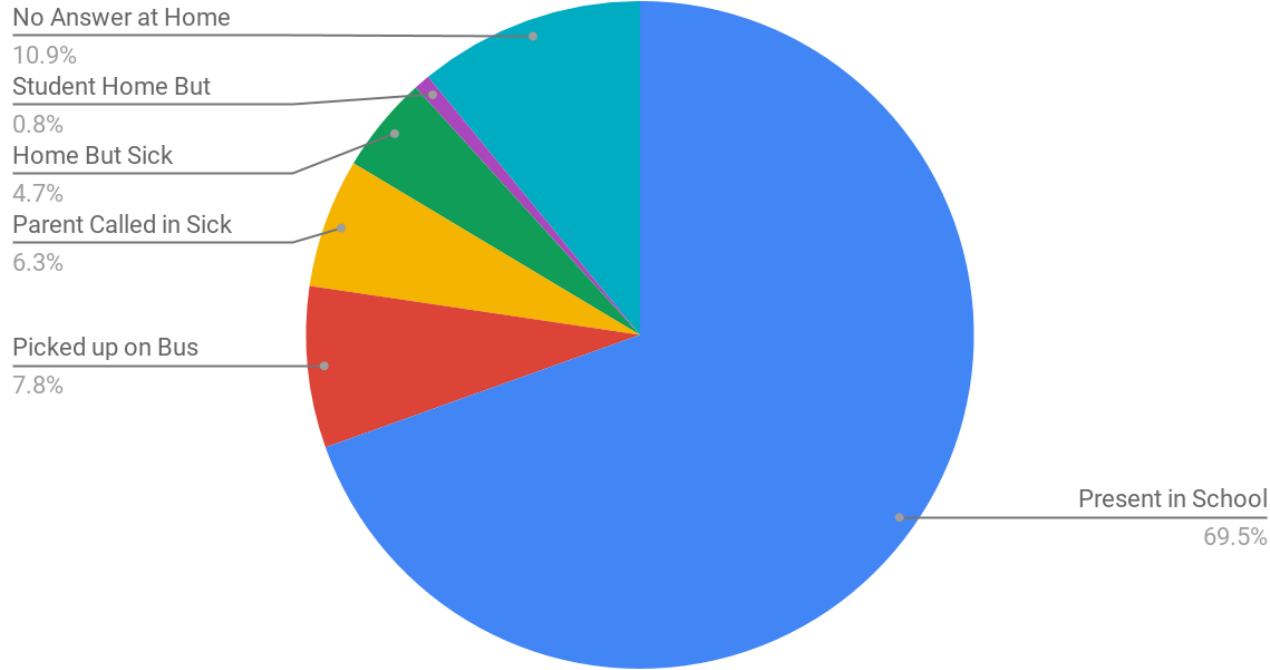
For Context: The students on the Attendance Bus are identified through an At Risk profile of chronic absenteeism and poor grades. The grades represented in the chart to the left, therefore, represent the achievement of a subset of students who were on track to not be in school and, potentially, fail all courses. This context is important in meaningfully understanding the data.

Students who utilized the bus passed 65.4% of classes.

2019-2020 Attendance Bus Data (As of Semester 1)

LEGEND

Attendance Bus Data 2019-2020 (Semester 1)



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RED: The bus picked up these students.

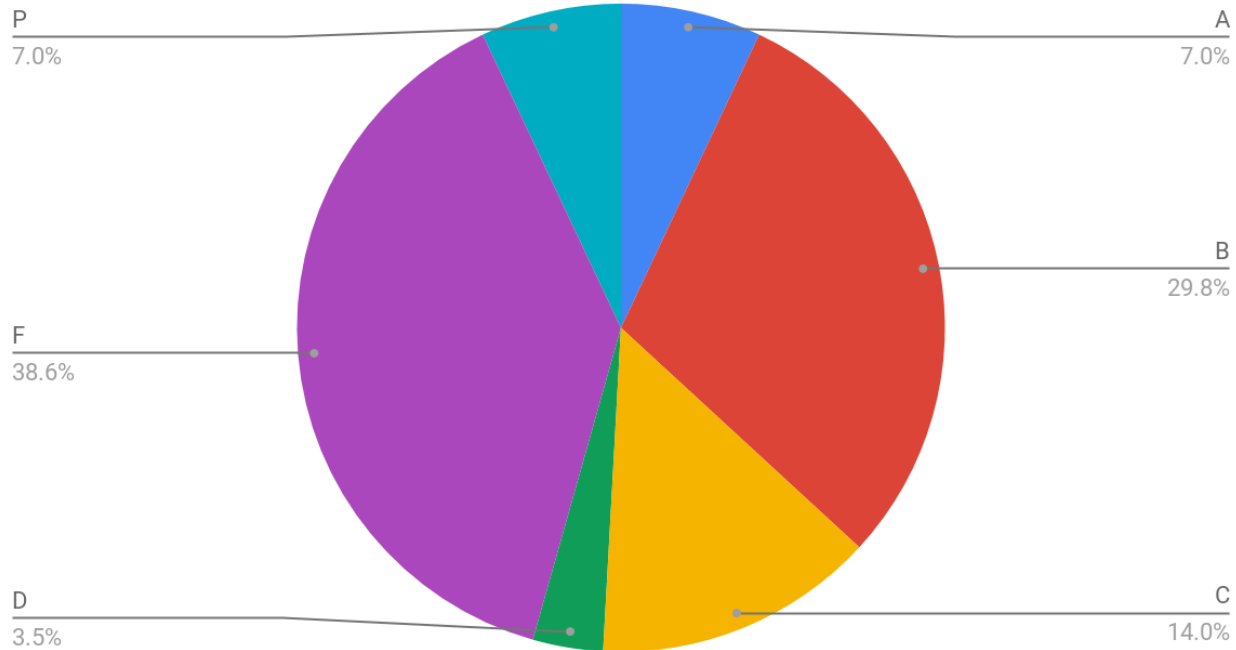
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Final Academic Grade Distribution 2019-2020 Semester One

Final Grade Distribution 2019-2020



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Students who utilized the bus passed 61.4% of classes.

2018-2019 Attendance Bus Student Data

	Grade Level	Still Enrolled	Transferred	Graduated
Student 1	10	X		
Student 2	9	X		
Student 3	9	X		
Student 4	9	X		
Student 5	9		X	
Student 6	9	X		
Student 7	12			X
Student 8	12			X
Student 9	10	X		
Student 10	10	X		