Interventions for Schools for Absences/Missed Classes

1. Ensure teachers take roll accurately.
2. Ensure all classrooms are nurturing and engaging so students want to come to every class.
3. Invest in accurate collection and entry of attendance data into student data systems.
4. Calculate and analyze absences to discern patterns for specific students.
5. Educate students and parents about the importance of attending every class.
6. Develop and implement a school-wide system of incentives and rewards for attending every class.
7. Reach out frequently to students in a supportive manner as to the reason they are missing school or a specific class and what would help them to attend more regularly.
8. Invest in professional development to help teachers and administrators understand the barriers that are preventing students attending every class.
9. Consider all data. Example: Does the level of absences/missed classes differ among specific groups of students? By grade level? By classroom? Ethnicity? Neighbor of residence?
10. Examining absences/missed classes by grade level and classroom can be especially helpful because the information can be used to target interventions as well as identify problematic situations.
11. Require all students to use passes when out of the classroom setting.
12. If a significant proportion of absences are concentrated among the students taught by one or two teachers rather than spread out across all classrooms, a more in-depth exploration of classroom dynamics is in order.
13. Use positive attendance messages: "Attend Today-Achieve Tomorrow", "Every Class Counts"
14. Provide clear expectations for students and parents regarding the attendance policy and guidelines regarding absences and missed classes.
15. Whenever an assembly is scheduled, students must report to class first for attendance.
16. Secure campus and add extra personnel in problematic areas to reduce students leaving campus without permission.
17. Follow policy and procedures regarding suspension of driver's license due to attendance.