

Recommendations for Core Attendance Practices and Strategies

Monitor Data

- School team that reviews attendance data for trends
- School plan for reducing chronic absence
- Use data to identify common barriers to attendance

Engage Students and Parents

- Create school climate that encourages students to come to school every day
 - Provide an engaging curriculum that draws students to school
 - Keep school clean and clear of health hazards
 - Cultivates an atmosphere where students feel respected and safe
 - Offer programs before and after school and enrichment activities
 - Provide enrichment activities for students
- Create a welcoming culture of attendance
 - Greet students and families at the door in the morning
 - Reinforce positive, welcoming experience in the front office
 - Create visuals that reflect attendance messaging
 - Explain expectations for attendance
 - Tell parents how to report an absence
 - Ensure school has opportunities for parental engagement
- Provide activities that engage students and families
 - Offer opportunities for before and after school programs
 - Offer field trips, dances, assemblies, book fairs
 - Call when students miss school to express concern
 - Welcome students back and identify any academic support needed.

Recognize Good and Improved Attendance

- Create friendly competition among classrooms for good and improved attendance
- Celebrate individual progress on attendance goals
- Recognize students and parents with good and improved attendance

Provide Personalized Early Outreach

- Calls home each day a student is absent
- Integrate information about chronic absence in parent communications
- Host transition meeting for incoming families (i.e. kindergarten or others new to school) about the importance of school attendance with clear messaging about how absences can impede learning

Remove Barriers to Attendance

- Invite families and community to address barriers to attendance
 - School breakfast program and food pantry
 - Safe walk to school program
 - Health interventions
 - Clothing drives
 - Community partnerships

3 Tiers of Intervention. (n.d.). Retrieved March 27, 2020, from <http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/schools/3-tiers-of-intervention/>