

School Health Advisory Board Minutes 3/20/2024

Present: Rebecca Abernathy, Lori Balaban, Erin Callas, Kristy Davis, Christine Eagleson, Eileen Gomez, Kevin Kirst

Guest: Anne Croonquist

Fentanyl and Narcan

Anne Croonquist, a former ACPS school nurse and parent of four ACPS graduates, described her family's experience with losing a son to a fentanyl overdose from a pill he purchased locally that he thought was Percocet. She described an organization called [A Song for Charlie](https://songforcharlie.org) whose mission to educate and prevent young people from dying by taking fake pills laced with fentanyl. Anne proposed going into schools to talk to students about the dangers of street drugs in the new fentanyl era. She showed a powerful 3-minute video <https://songforcharlie.org/counterfeit-pills-you-need-to-know/>.

Board members discussed ways to share this information including health classes, stall talks, freshman seminars and leadership classes. A seminar format might be better than a large assembly. It may be better to target younger students in middle school before they are exposed to these types of choices. Adding information about local resources would be helpful on flyers and posters, including where to get help for addiction/dependence.

Should school nurses have drug destruction kits available if students want to get rid of questionable pills?

Kristy shared an article with Eileen earlier about a new synthetic opioid called [Nitazenes](#) that poses some of the same problems as fentanyl.

Eileen shared that ACPS is planning a community information session about opioids, and UVA's Department of Anesthesiology Division of Pain Management and Opioid Stewardship would like to hold educational sessions for families.

Eileen reported that [ACPS's response to the Governor's Executive Order #28](#) is now posted.

The board discussed housing doses of naloxone in AED cabinets.

- Maybe video surveillance cameras can be installed to monitor tampering or taking
- Someone would have to check the cabinet periodically to ensure that the doses were still there as advertised
- It might not necessarily be a bad thing if students removed the Narcan
- If naloxone is in AED cabinets, it can be public access during the off hours by others using the space, which is completely acceptable if it is needed
- Eileen has replenishments

Chronic Absenteeism Eileen presented data related to chronic absenteeism defined as students missing at least 10% of school days. For the purpose of this data presentation, these are absences for any reason.

Table 1: ACPs Division-Wide Chronic Absenteeism by School Year

Effective Chronic Absenteeism Rate

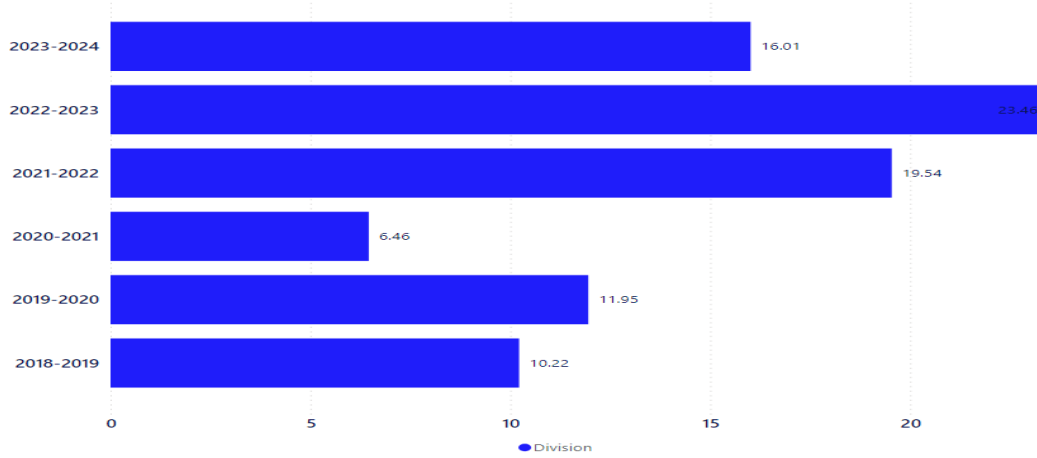


Table 2: Chronic Absenteeism by Race

Effective Chronic Absenteeism Rate for Division

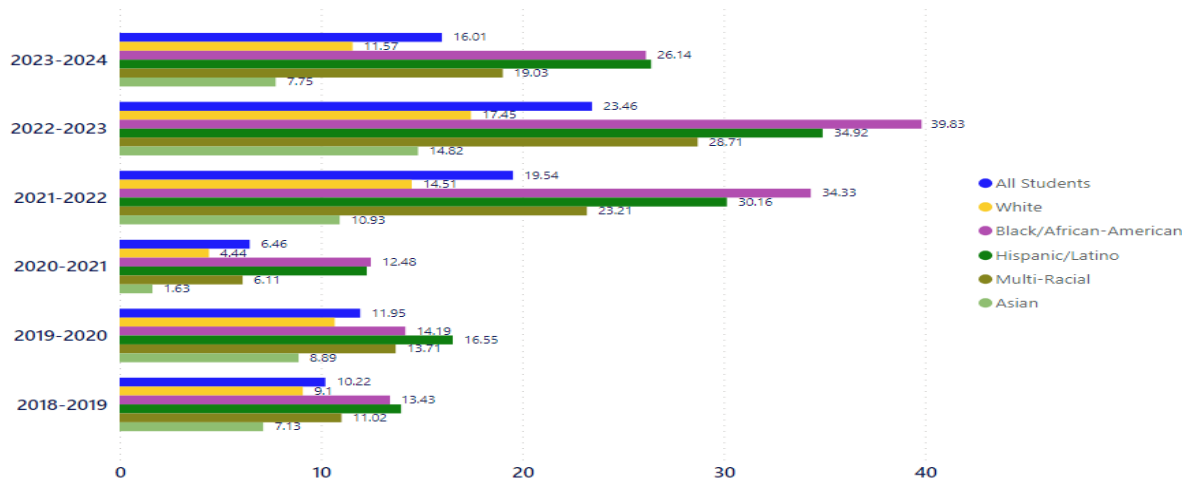


Table 3: Chronic Absenteeism Students with Disabilities

Qualified (VDOE) Effective Chronic Absenteeism Rate for Division

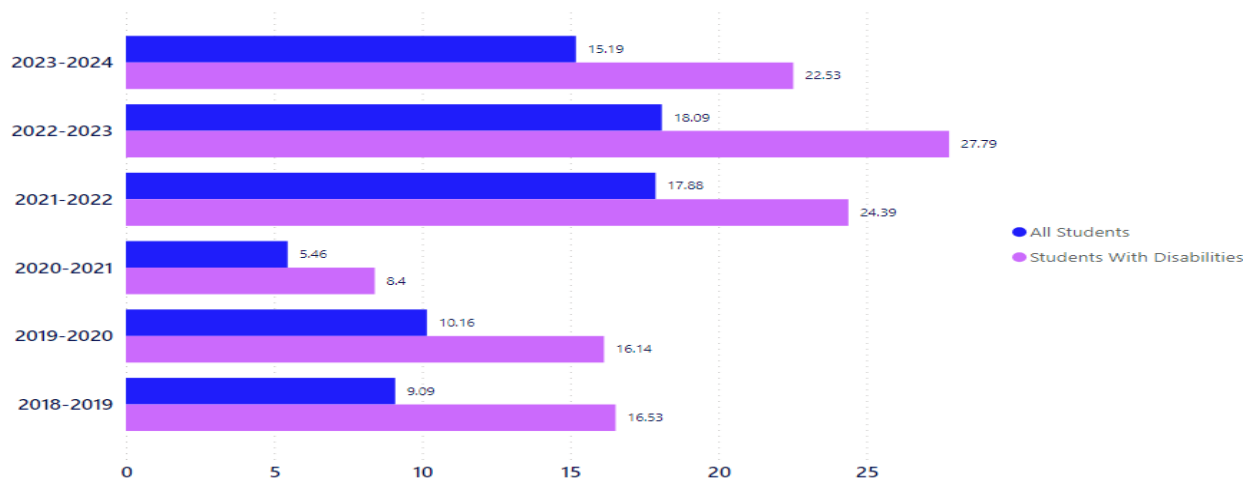


Table 4: Chronic Absenteeism English Learners

Qualified (VDOE) Effective Chronic Absenteeism Rate for Division

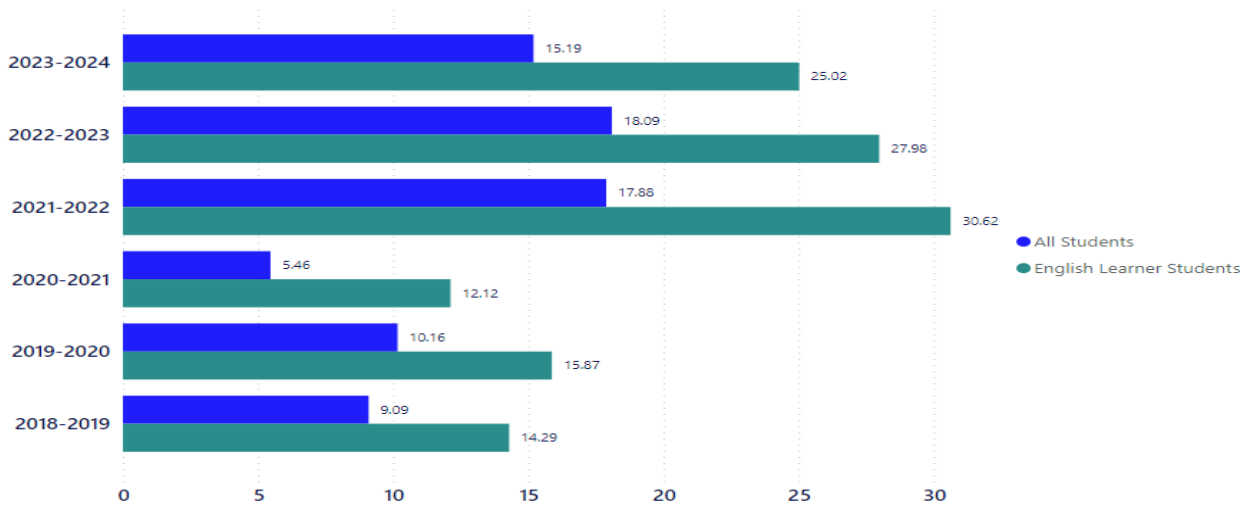


Table 5: Chronic Absenteeism By Grade Level

Effective Chronic Absenteeism Rate

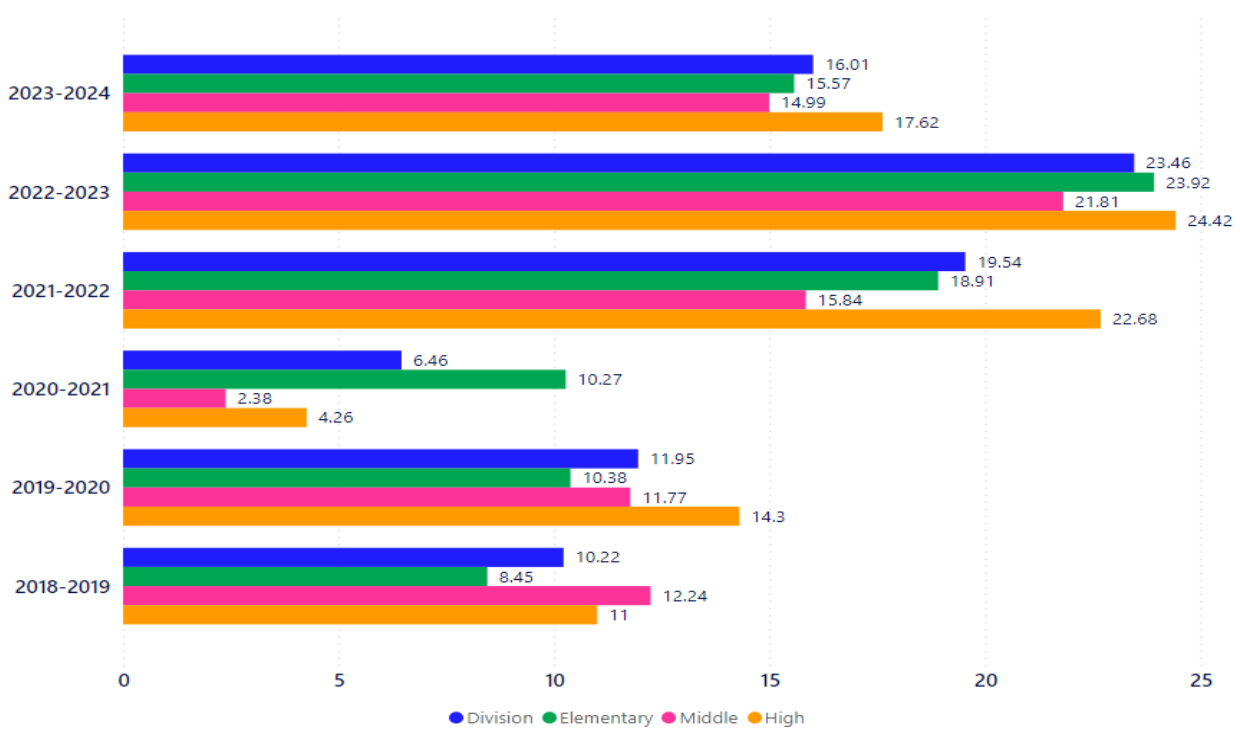


Table 6: Absenteeism: Local, Virginia, National

School Year	Albemarle %	Virginia %	Nation %
2018 - 2019	10.2	9	16
2021 - 2022	21.6	20	33
2022 - 2023	23.5	19.3	30
2023 - 2024	16.19		

Is chronic absenteeism linked to the distance a student lives from school?

What are some of the factors that lead to chronic absenteeism by the different sub groups?

ACPS's Effort to Address Chronic Absenteeism include:

- [Page at Website](#) Includes nudges and interventions depending on number of absences
- [Monthly messages](#) about the importance of school attendance

Updated COVID-19 Protocol

Eileen explained that ACPS recently updated their [COVID-19 protocol](#) to align with the most recent CDC guidance advising that COVID-19 cases be managed like other respiratory viruses.

Next Meeting

May 15