Attendance Percentages on Transcripts

Since the pandemic, a decrease in daily attendance has become an issue for many schools and employers. Colleges, high schools and employers struggle to ensure appropriate daily in-person attendance. This, combined with gaps in learning, grade forgiveness, and the lack of required standardized test scores has made college admission an even more difficult process.

With a diminished set of real and informative selection criteria, as well as colleges' struggles with student attendance, strong high school attendance has become a relative accolade. Given the possibility that this indicator can assist our students in college admissions and motivate them to prioritize attendance, we will be placing attendance percentages on CHS transcripts beginning this year.

Starting with the fall semester (2024-2025), CHS transcripts will contain the cumulative attendance percentage for each student by semester. (Note: We already report the number of absences per course on report cards.) This attendance percentage will be expressed as a single number for the semester and it is calculated by dividing the total number of minutes the student was present in classes divided by the total number of minutes the student was scheduled for classes.

This number is already required to be reported annually for each student to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and it is used as a component of the accreditation rating for each school.

Given the fact that the vast majority of our students have very good in-person attendance, we are hopeful that the inclusion of this data point will be an asset for their post-secondary aspirations, and it will also serve as a motivational factor for all students. This also aligns with our work to create a more holistic representation of our students as learners as they graduate from the District.