



Strengthening Supports for Students Experiencing Homelessness:

Strategies for LEA Leadership and McKinney-Vento

Welcome! We will begin momentarily.
Please say hello in the chat!

National Center for Youth Law

Strengthening Supports for Students Experiencing Homelessness: Strategies for LEA Leadership and McKinney-Vento Collaboration



Kayla Schivo, Margaret Olmos & Alan Crawford
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Meet the Panel

Margaret Olmos

Director of the Unified Education team at the National Center for Youth Law

Kayla Schivo

Senior Program Manager at the National Center for Youth Law

Alan Crawford

Director of Student Support, Prevention and Safety at the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District

Donnie Everett

Assistant Superintendent, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support at the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District

LCAP ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS



- Student engagement at middle and high school sites
- School site engagement at School Site Councils and English Learner Advisory Committees
- District English Learner Advisory Committee
- District LCAP Task Force
- Engagement with union partners
- English and Spanish Survey (push out)



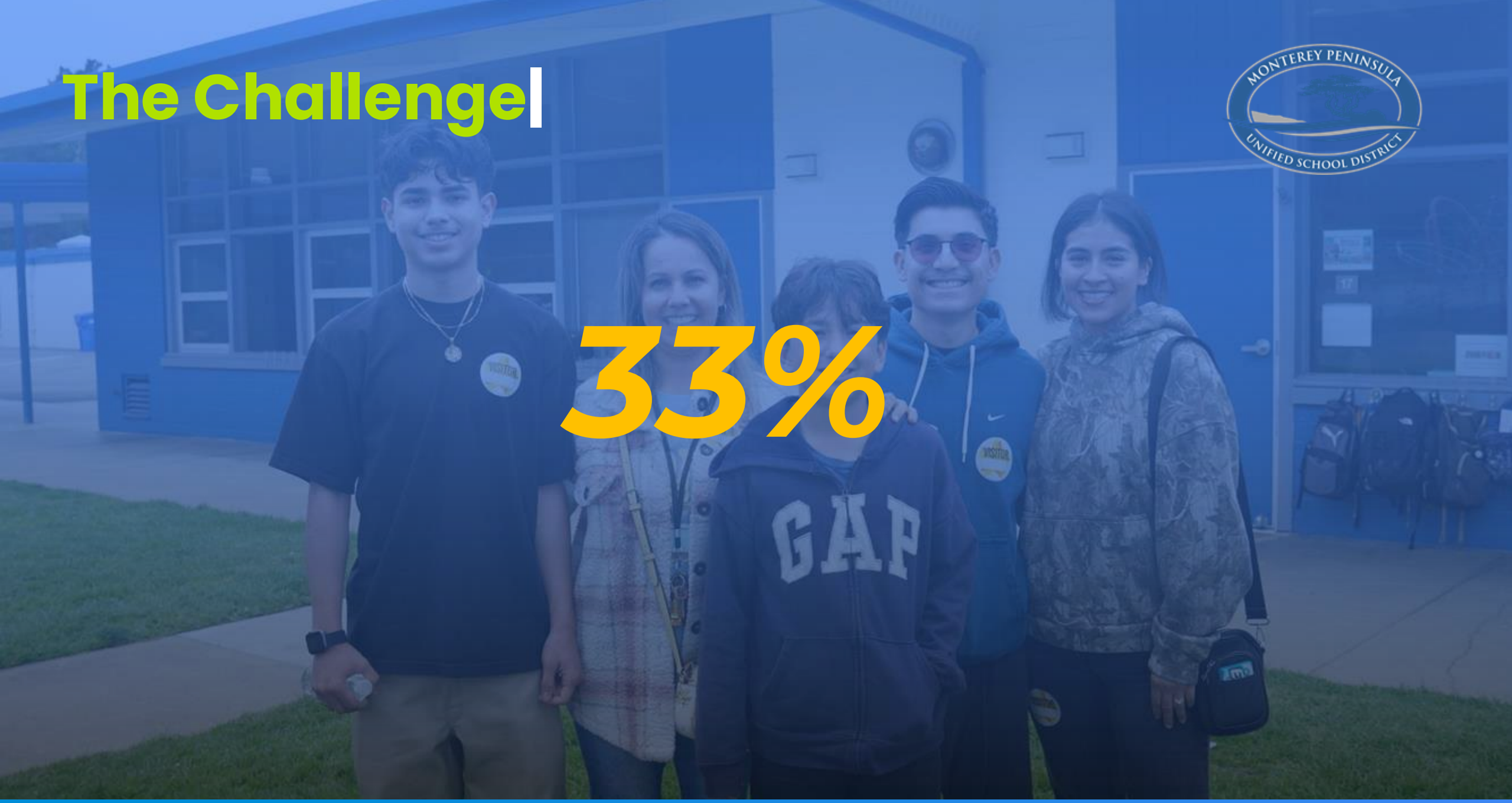
	2025-2026 LCAP AT A GLANCE	
	Action/Service	**Investment Amount**
5.1	***Comprehensive Mental Health Support Across All Grade Levels***: Investments include: elementary mental health support staff, middle school mental health support staff, high school mental health support staff, and mental health support staff at alternative high school.	**$1,937,649.00**
5.2	***Dedicated Support for Students Experiencing Homelessness and Foster Youth:*** Investments include elementary school homeless liaison and high school homeless liaison.	**$185,606.67**
5.3	***Strengthening Prevention, Attendance, and Tiered Intervention Systems***: Investments include mental health clinicians, director of multi-tiered systems of support, director of prevention/attendance/safety, MTSS curriculum data (Renaissance Learning), and PBIS stipends.	**$824,333.17**
5.4	***McKinney Vento and Foster Youth***: Contract w/ National Center for Youth Law.	**$80,000**
5.5	***Investing in Student Wellness Through Community Mental Health Partnerships***: Investments include partnerships to support social and emotional and mental health (Navigate360, Committee for Children Second Step, Community Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Therapy, Open Parachute Web-based app, Village Project, Youth Leadership at SHS, PBIS Materials, MTSS Supplies, Monthly Consult Group, Equine Healing Collaborative, Triadic Clinical Supervision).	**$242,003.52**
5.6	***Strengthening On-Campus Mental Health Support for Students***: Investments include school psychologists, supplies, conferences, and contract services.	**$1,224,875.00**
5.7	***Investing in Health, Safety, Attendance, and Expanded Learning Access***: Investments include attendance/absenteeism clerks, health coordinator, health assistants, elementary supervisory assistants, high school campus monitor, elementary assistant principals, program specialist, Saturday Academy, and short-term Independent study stipents.	**$3,726,667.14**
5.8	***Enhancing Family Engagement Through Communication and Transparency Tools***: Investments include: district communications specialist and tools such as ParentSquare, Edlio, translation services, GoBo Graphics, and Doc Tracking.	**$422,952.78**
5.9	***Empowering Families and Fostering Positive School Climates***: Investments include: parent education provider, parent education provider partnership trainings, supplies, District English Learner Advisory Committee, and high school deans of school climate.	**$346,671.24**
GOAL #5: TOTAL	**TOTAL**	**$8,990,758.58**

Showing Up Matters:

Leveraging MTSS Structures, Communication, and Compassionate Systems Change to Boost Attendance and Reduce Chronic Absenteeism for Mckinney Vento Students

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF EVERY STUDENT ON THE PENINSULA

The Challenge



33%

The Challenge

What We Faced at MPUSD

Chronic absenteeism wasn't just high, it revealed deep inequities across student groups.

- **2021 - 2022 Chronic Absenteeism Rate: 27.60%**
- **Subgroup disparities**
  - Students with Disabilities: 35.9%
  - **Mckinney Vento Youth: 33%**
  - Socio-Economically Disadvantaged: 32%
  - African American: 30.9%
  - English Learners: 29.5%
- **Post-pandemic routines and habits**
- **Competing family responsibilities**

What Changed First
Was The Narrative

OLD STORY

- Family challenges
- Kids just don’t want to come
- Attendance is a compliance issue

NEW STORY

- Every day matters
- Schools ans Staff remove ALL barriers
- Attendance is belonging

When Systems Changed | Attendance Followed

Biggest Subgroup Gains

- African American ↓ 13 pts
- Students with Disabilities ↓ 17 pts
- Economically Disadvantaged ↓ 16.7 pts
- Mckinney Vento ↓ 16.6 pts
- English Learners ↓ 19.7 pts

(2021 → 2024/25)

27.6% → 12.7% (All Students)

33% → 16.4% (Mckinney Vento)

The System We Built

Actions that Worked

1

CAMPAIGN ENGINE

- ✓ Show Up MPUSD annual strategy
- ✓ Monthly site incentives
- ✓ Sprint to Spring Break
- ✓ School competitions

2

LEADERSHIP ALIGNMENT

- ✓ Superintendent messaging
- ✓ MTSS/PBIS
- ✓ NYCL!
- ✓ Principals equipped with talking points
- ✓ Weekly cross-team cadence

3

READY-TO-USE SITE TOOLS

- ✓ Monthly templates
- ✓ Attendance reminders
- ✓ Truancy and chronic absence communication and nudges
- ✓ Plug-and-play messages and graphics

The System We Built

Actions that Worked

4 MULTI-CHANNEL APPROACH

- ✓ ParentSquare
- ✓ Social media
- ✓ Posters, postcards, magnets
- ✓ Podcast episode
- ✓ Movie theatre advertising
- ✓ Bilingual outreach
- ✓ Engaged intervention specialists
- ✓ Saturday Academy
- ✓ Independent Study

5 DATA AND INTEGRATION

- ✓ Everyday Labs insights
- ✓ Multi-Tiered Systems of Support integration
- ✓ Saturday Academy
- ✓ Campaigns aligned to lowest months
- ✓ PAACS grant

Actions that Worked

What Sites Actually Received

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School of the Arts

Every Day Matters: MPUSD's Commitment to Showing Up

Cathleen Main • 4 months ago • Monday, Oct 27 at 9:00 AM • Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School of the Arts

Every Day Matters: MPUSD's Commitment to Showing Up

Showing up to school each day makes a big difference. Regular attendance helps students build strong academic skills, meaningful social connections, and lifelong habits for success. During Attendance Awareness Month this past September, MPUSD schools celebrated the importance of "showing up" through spirit days, classroom competitions, regular family communication, and student check-ins—all with a focus on creating welcoming, positive school cultures.

And it's working!

- **82%** of schools reduced chronic absenteeism, with an average **6% decrease**
- **71%** of schools increased their daily attendance
- **Districtwide:** Chronic absenteeism dropped **4.17%**, and ADA rose **0.56%** compared to last year

At MLK SOA, we reduced our chronic absenteeism rate by 8.4%.

These numbers represent real students showing up—for their learning, for their peers, and for their futures.

MPUSD's year-round **#ShowUpMPUSD** campaign continues to emphasize that attendance is more than a number—it's a reflection of **engagement, belonging, and opportunity**.

Looking ahead to 2025–2026, MPUSD's goals are:

- Chronic absenteeism **under 10%**
- ADA **up by 1%**
- Extreme absenteeism **down by 20%**

Because when students show up, **they grow up stronger—together.**

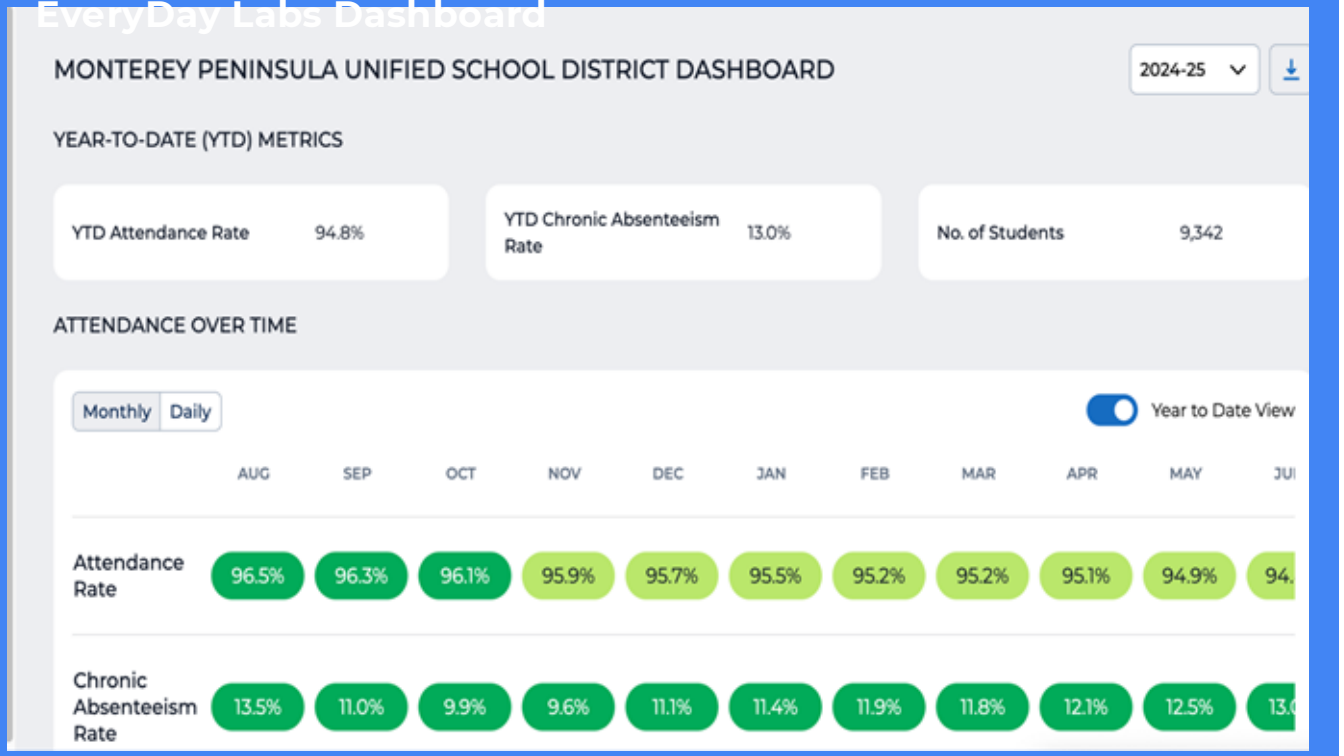




Actions that Worked

Data Made The Message Real





Lessons Learned

What we got wrong; What worked



Build the System
Not Just the Message

the.mpusd.net/showingupmattersresources

- Show Up MPUSD annual campaign overview
- Sprint to Spring Break toolkit
- Data visualization examples
- Everyday Labs communication sample
- Attendance communication flow
- Monthly site templates
- Superintendent messaging sample
- Podcast outline
- Incentive framework
- YouTube Playlists
  - Attendance Matters: the.mpusd.net/attendancemattersplaylist
  - Show Up MPUSD: the.mpusd.net/showupmpusdplaylist

THANK YOU



Back-Up Data Slide

Chronic Absenteeism Rates of Subgroups (Official Data from 24-25)					
	21-22 (Return from Pandemic)	**22-23**	**23-24**	**24-25**	**Overall Decrease Since Return from Pandemic**
All MPUSD	27.60%	26.70%	14%	12.70%	14.90%
Asian	18%	15%	7.70%	5.00%	13%
African American	30.70%	23.80%	14.10%	17.00%	13.70%
Economically Disadvantaged	32.00%	31.80%	17.10%	15.30%	16.70%
English Language Learner	29.50%	28.30%	14%	9.80%	19.70%
Hispanic	30.10%	20.30%	16%	14.80%	15.30%
Pacific Islander	29.00%	37.10%	20%	12.70%	16.30%
Students with Disabilities	35.90%	35.80%	21.60%	18.90%	17.00%
Homeless Youth	33.00%	32.70%	19.70%	16.40%	16.60%
White	19.50%	20.20%	8.80%	8.50%	11.00%

Questions?

National Center for Youth Law

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