



Wall Township Public Schools

Chronic Absenteeism Plan 2026-2027

Presented by
Jennifer McCann & Kevin Davis



Chronic Absenteeism

What is it?

- A student is considered chronically absent if the student misses 10 percent or more of the school days in session for which the student was enrolled.
- $\text{Student Absentee Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Days Absent}}{\text{Number of Days Present} + \text{Number of Days Absent}}$
- $\text{School Chronic Absenteeism Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of chronically absent students}}{\text{Number of students enrolled}}$

Chronic Absenteeism

Corrective Action Plans

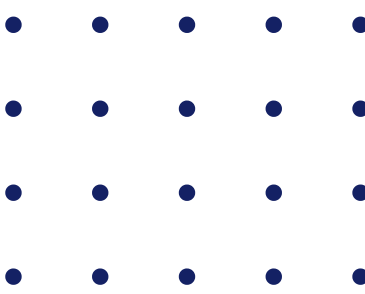
NJDOE Requirement: Overall rate at or above 10% require an action plan

The plan should include:

- Problems and barriers to school attendance
- Recommendations to address the problems and barriers
- Communication strategies to educate and inform parents on the importance of school attendance
- Protocols on informing and engaging parents when a child begins to show a pattern of absences
- Review of school policies to ensure that they support improved school attendance

Chronic Absenteeism

Corrective Action Plans

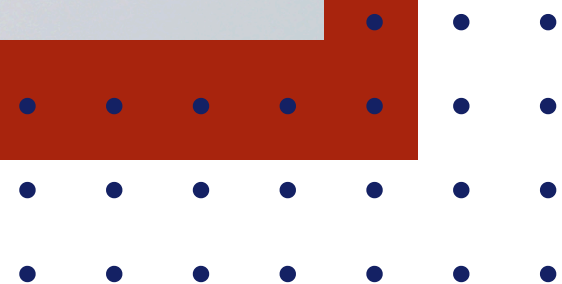


- Must solicit input from parents attending the school via a survey that include questions related to parents' beliefs regarding the reasons why students are chronically absent and recommendations on the ways to improve.
- The school should engage the school's parent organization in identifying the causes of the school's high absenteeism rate and possible solutions.
- The school shall present the corrective action to the board of education and annually review and revise the plan and present the revisions to the board until the percent of students who are chronically absent is less than 10 percent.

Chronic Absenteeism

Corrective Action Plans

1. Create a Problem-Solving Team
 - a. Data Based Decision Making
 - b. Assess
 - c. Build and Reflect
 - d. Implement and Monitor
 - e. Parent/Caregiver Survey
2. Plan for Sustainability



2025-2026

End of Year Updates

	2024-2025	2025-2026
Allenwood School	4.7%	4.4%
Central School	11.4%	9.6%
Old Mill School	9.8%	5.9%
West Belmar School	10.5%	9.8%
Wall Intermediate School	11.2%	8.9%
Wall High School	11.3%	13.2%



2025–2026

End of Year Updates

Wall High School
Absentee Rate: 13.2%

Data Results:

- 18/118 students ninth grade = 15%
- 21/118 students tenth grade = 18%
- 30/118 students eleventh grade = 24%
- 49/118 students twelfth grade = 42%

2026–2027 Chronic Absenteeism Plan

Data Dive:

Student groups that demonstrate higher absenteeism rates

- 41% have an IEP
 - 21% of total WHS population has an IEP
- 35% are economically disadvantaged students
 - 14% of total WHS population is economically disadvantaged





2026–2027

Chronic Absenteeism Plan

Problems and Barriers:

1. Illness
2. Travel
3. Mental Health
4. School refusal

2026–2027 Chronic Absenteeism Plan



Increase parent communication
(letters, phone calls, home visits)



Educate parents & students
on district policy & importance of being in school



Coordination
of Community Resources



Reduce
the spread of illnesses

2026–2027 Chronic Absenteeism Plan

Continue current parent communication strategies:

- Summer letters
- Back to School Night
- Benchmark calls/letters
 - Deans of Attendance
 - Counselors
 - Administrators



2026–2027

Chronic Absenteeism Plan

Protocols for engaging parents & students:

- **Deans of Attendance**
 - Start of school meeting with students who were chronically absent in 25-26
- **Parent Engagement**
 - Engage parents of students refusing to come to school with community resources
- **Community Partnerships**
 - Provide incentives/prizes to students with positive attendance





THANK
YOU



#WallTogether



2025–2026 Chronic Absenteeism Plan

Evaluate current policy:

- Completed a review of our attendance policy at our July Administrative Retreat
 - Compare/Contrast of other district's policy
 - Make recommendations
 - Share recommendations with staff leadership positions and PTO executives boards when appropriate
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2025–2026 Chronic Absenteeism Plan

Data Dive:

- Allenwood: 4.7%
- Central: 11.4%
- Old Mill: 9.8%
- West Belmar: 10.5%
- Wall Intermediate: 11.2%
- Wall High School: 11.3%



2024–2025

End of Year Updates

Wall Intermediate School

Parent Input: Survey

Action Steps:

- Parent information letter
- Identification of “high level” absenteeism students
- Establishment of guidelines for guidance and administrative phone calls home to parents and face to face attendance conferences
- Establishment of school-wide focus and initiatives targeting student attendance
- Truancy procedures initiated

Wall High School

Parent Input: Survey

Actions Steps:

- Parent Information Letter
- Deans of Attendance - meet 1:1 with students who have been chronically absent in the past or are in danger of
 - Personal level of contact with parent & student
 - Student Goal Setting
- Meeting with parent, Dean of Attendance, Counselor, and Asst. Principal for chronic students