Chronic Absenteeism: Breaking the Cycle

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Overview

- Defining Chronic Absenteeism vs. Truancy
- How to create an attendance team
- Use of Data
- Tiered Interventions to address attendance
- Incentive Programs
- Community Resources/Partnerships
- Family Education and Support

COOL

Truancy Vs. Chronic Absence

TRUANCY

- Counts only unexcused absences
- Emphasizes compliance with school rules
- Relies on legal & administrative solutions

Vs.

CHRONIC ABSENCE

- Counts all absences: excused, unexcused & suspensions
- Emphasizes academic impact of missed days
- Uses community-based, positive strategies

Attendance Works

Elementary vs. Secondary

Elementary

- Parent Engagement/Education
- Attendance Planning with Family
- Identifying family/student barriers

Secondary

- Student Engagement/Education
- Family partnership
- Identifying Truancy/Skipping vs. Non-Attending

Creating an Attandance Team

Who to consider inviting?
Nurse, Counselors, Social Workers, Admin, Teachers, Attendance Clerk, Parent Liaison, Support Staff, Student Leaders...etc

Role Reflections
+What is the current role?
+What contributions are being made?
+How might this role expand to support attendance?
+What PD would support this role?

Meeting Structure Considerations:
+How often are you meeting (weekly is ideal)
+What data are you reviewing?
+How are you monitoring success?

Community Partnerships
+What partnerships support attendance? (County Orgs/Community Supports)

It Starts with the Data

Why is data important?

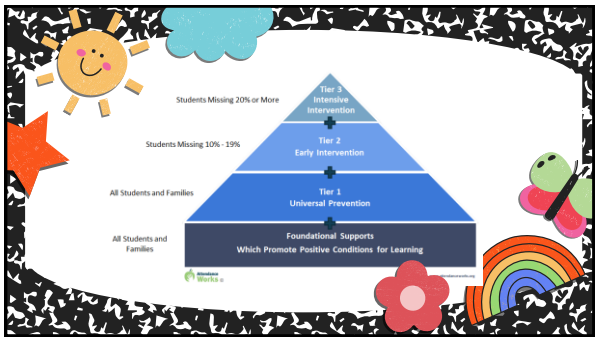
- Analyzing patterns/trends
  - Days of the week
  - At risk populations
- Recognize early warning signs
- Identify root causes
- Target interventions
- Monitor progress
- Avoid bias

Where is the data coming from?
"Anchor into reliable, consistent data"

- Platforms/Dashboards
  - Infinite Campus
  - Innive
  - Panorama
  - Forecast5
- Teachers/students/families
  - Qualitative data

What do you do with the data?

- Create systematic solutions
- Identify tiered interventions
- Communicate
- Collaborate
- Monitor/track
- Adjust practices



Tier 1 Approaches

Tier 1 strategies are aimed at encouraging better attendance for all students and at preventing absenteeism before it affects achievement.

Improving school climate
Clubs/Events
Restorative practices
PBIS Practices
SEL
Bullying Prevention
Education on attendance impacts

Tier 2 Approaches

Tier 2 interventions are designed to remove barriers to attendance for students at greater risk of chronic absenteeism, such as those who missed 10% of the school year, the standard definition of chronic absenteeism. These students and families should receive personalized attention as part of the engagement strategy.

Ongoing, targeted messaging and engagement
Mentors
Youth Engagement
Community Referrals
Student/Family Meetings
Incentive Plans

Tier 3 Approaches

Tier 3 interventions provide intensive support to students missing the most school, often involving not just schools but other agencies such as health, housing and social services, and typically requiring case management customized to individual students' challenges. Students missing 20% or more of the school year benefit from the addition of this intensive level of support.

Home visits
County Resource Referrals (CPS, OMH, FACT, Case Management, Mental Health Clinics, etc)
Support with basic needs (ie. food, clothing, housing, transportation etc)
Individualized Attendance Contracts
Individualized Incentive Plans

Case Study

Collaborative Group Activity

Q&A

RESOURCE PAGE
Attendance Works
Advancing Student Success By Reducing Chronic Absence
nea
NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
IEL
Institute for Educational Leadership
60+ Years Strong
PBIS World
Ontario County
WAYNE COUNTY