

Attendance Matters

Attendance Awareness Month, September 2015



What is Chronic Absenteeism?



Utah's Definition: A student who misses 10% of school days in a year, whether from excused, or unexcused absences, and has been registered for at least 60 days is chronically absent.



10%
Students who are chronically absent miss 10% of overall school days. That's equal to twice a month! Missed days add up quickly!

Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten negatively correlates with academic performance in first grade

Chronic absenteeism is often higher in urban schools than rural schools

Chronic absenteeism shows a reduction in GPA, Math, Language, and Science Scores

Chronic absenteeism can reduce the likelihood of post-secondary enrollment

Chronic absenteeism can be an early predictor of dropping out of high school.

Chronic Absenteeism causes children to fall behind academically, reduces teacher effectiveness, and hinders district goals

What Can I Do?



Students

Students should be made aware that the more school days are missed, the more their grades and future will be affected.



Teachers

Awareness is key. Knowing which students are absent, finding out why, and working with administrators and counselors can help direct interventions.



Administrators

Schools can collect specific data and use it to inform parents and communities in order to develop best practices.



Parents

Parents should be invited to participate in the conversation. They should be informed of the consequences and resources available.

Check Out These Resources for Data and Best Practices!

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/>
<http://awareness.attendanceworks.org/>
<http://www.utahdataalliance.org/downloads/ChronicAbsenteeismResearchBrief.pdf>

Partner Agencies:

