

# EXERCISE: ATTENDANCE CAFE

Time: 30 minutes

## MENU:

### Special Today: ATTENDANCE

#### APPETIZERS

- » Welcome and Parent Café Agreements
- » 3 Minute conversation with your designated partner. Each partner gets a turn to respond to these questions: How was school attendance for you when you were a student? Did you go every day? Did you miss a lot?

#### ENTREE

- » Discuss this question for 15 minutes: Did you know that children who miss 18 or more days of the school year (2 days a month) starting in kindergarten are less likely to learn to read by third grade and graduate from high school?
- » Discuss this question for 15 minutes: What are some of the obstacles that parents face in getting their children to attend school every day?
- » Discuss this question on the new table for 15 minutes: What are some ways that parents can overcome these obstacles? How can you help other parents overcome these obstacles?

#### DESSERT

- » Conversation reflection: Table Hosts summarize the conversations at their tables.
- » Volunteer to be on an attendance committee
- » One-word reflection

The Attendance Café is part of a series of Parent Cafes developed by Oakland Parents Together. Reprinted with permission by Attendance Works, January 2013. For more information on Parent Cafes, contact Oakland Parents Together, 510-452-9854, <http://www.parentstogether.org>