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A Toolkit to Reduce Chronic Absence

Did you know that last year nearly [# or statistic for how many students i.e. 1 in 10] were chronically absent, meaning they missed almost a month of school? Help us interrupt this pattern and cultivate a habit of good attendance starting in kindergarten, or even earlier, so children have the opportunity to learn and succeed in school.

[Insert paragraph about who is developing the toolkit/intro to contents to follow in toolkit] This toolkit provides ready-made materials that administrators, staff, teachers, and community partners can use for outreach to families and provides tools that schools can use to assess their own attendance practices and guide their improvement.

Why is reducing chronic absence so important?

* Students suffer academically if they miss 10 percent or more of school days.
* Studies show that children who miss too many days in kindergarten and 1st grade often have trouble mastering reading by the end of 3rd grade. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves.
* When children are absent, schools get fewer resources from the state, resulting in less funding to pay for teachers and books. Chronic absence in kindergarten predicts chronic absence the following year, so even the attendance patterns of our youngest students affect funding down the road.

What is in the toolkit?

* 1. [Insert toolkit contents]

How will I get a toolkit?

[put link to website where people can download or location where they can pick up a copy]

[Insert title/section about the group creating the toolkit]