



Ensuring a Welcoming, Healthy and Restorative Start to School

Attendance Awareness Campaign Webinar #3 Discussion Guide

August 3, 2022

We've developed discussion questions for schools and communities to reflect upon insights gained from this webinar. Please use some or all of the questions to prompt a rich conversation about how to take action.

1. A warm, welcoming and restorative return to school

- a. What will staff members at your school do to create a warm and welcoming environment for students and families? How might you involve the community, families and students in creating this environment?
- b. How will you convey to families and students that your school is safe and healthy?
- c. What local agencies and organizations can provide support with messaging and action around health and safety?

2. Using attendance data to inform action

- a. Do staff at your school routinely have access to real-time, actionable attendance data?
- b. Do you use attendance data (quantitative and qualitative) to determine what strategies to implement?
- c. How could you apply what you heard on the webinar to improve the quality and use of data to inform your approach to reducing student absenteeism?

3. Addressing the needs of younger students and older students

- a. What insights have you gained about engaging young students and their families? About working with older students? How are you ensuring your efforts address their needs?

4. Adapting strategies to different populations

- a. What considerations should drive the strategies you would use in your community, whether it is rural, urban or suburban?
- b. How might you engage the members of different ethnic groups in your community in coming up with strategies to address challenges to attendance?