



Health, Well-Being and Safety Are Essential to Showing Up!

Attendance Awareness Campaign 2025 Webinar #2 Discussion Guide May 14, 2025

Below are a suggested set of discussion questions for schools and communities to use when reflecting on insights gained from this webinar. Feel free to use some or all of the questions to prompt a rich conversation about how to take action.

Data on Attendance and Health

1. What do you know about chronic absence in your schools, district and state? What percent of students are chronically absent? How many? (If you don't know, ask your district for current data. You can also take a look at the website for your state department of education, though data is likely from last year.)
2. What are the biggest health challenges affecting student attendance in your community? How do you know?
3. Do you have a way of tracking health-related absences and their specific causes? (e.g. type of illness, doctor's appointment, lack of insurance, lack of access to health care, etc.)

Engaging Health Staff and Partners

1. Who are the staff working on physical and behavioral health at your school ? (i.e. school nurse, social worker, counselor, behavior interventionist, etc.)
2. Do you have teams that address attendance in your schools and district? Are school health staff included in the team that addresses attendance?
3. What current health partnerships do you have in place? What are some additional health-related partnerships in your community that you might explore to support attendance?

Strategies and Interventions

1. Are you engaging in messaging about *the value* of showing up to school for health, well-being and learning, as well as when to stay home due to illness?
2. How are you helping to prevent students from getting sick in the first place? Do you see a need or opportunity to strengthen these efforts?
3. What do you have in place to help maximize access to health and mental health related services at your schools? Do you feel this could be strengthened? If so, how?
4. What are some success stories specific to health and attendance that you might expand, learn from and share?