A Welcoming and Healthy Return to School: Ensuring Showing Up

Attendance Awareness Campaign Webinar #3 Discussion Guide
Wednesday, August 9, 2023

Below are a suggested set of discussion questions for schools and communities to reflect upon 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.

1. Engaging Previously Chronic Absent Students:
   a. Which grades or groups of students in your school or community were chronically absent during the previous school year? If you don’t know, consider using these data tools.
   b. What do you know about these students and their families’ strengths and attendance barriers?
   c. How can you engage these students and their families in the first month of school?

2. Parents/Caregivers As Key Partners
   a. The Parent Institute for Quality Education presented key findings of their 2023 Family Needs Assessment Survey. What key findings resonate with you?
   b. How is your district, community or school engaging families as partners in their children’s education, including establishing a routine of every day attendance?
   c. Are you communicating in families’ home languages? If not, what community partners or agencies could help you do so?

3. A Healthy Return to School
   a. What is your district or school doing to ensure a welcoming and healthy return to school?
   b. Specifically, are there ways your district or school is helping families make the connection between staying healthy, and attendance and learning?
   c. How can you incorporate the health guidance shared during the webinar into upcoming communications and/or school events?