

Plan → Do → Study → Act (PDSA) Plan

Testers: Counselors

Test Title: Lunch Buddies

Cycle #: 1

What change idea is being tested?

Lunch Buddies is the change idea. Counselors will invite students who seem disconnected to eat lunch and meet with peers in small groups every Friday.

Date of test: October 23, 2023

(After the first attempt, review the data, discuss, and make modifications to increase outcomes for the next week. Use a new form every week to record results.)

What is the overall goal of this test?

Improve attendance for students who seem to be disconnected and who have missed between 10-19% of the school year. Students who feel more connected to their peers will have better attendance. Selected students will have fewer total absences on the day of the test than on the previous Friday as a result of feeling more connected to peers.

Driver:

Positive Peer Relationships

Learning Questions: What do you hope to learn from this test?

- Q1 - Are counselors willing to support this intervention?*
- Q2 - Which students will show up?*
- Q3 - Does attendance improve on Fridays?*
- Q4 - Are there any spillover effects, i.e., does attendance improve the other days of the week?*

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Plan		Do	Study	
Details: What are the steps in the test? Who will implement it?	Predictions: Make a prediction for each question. Not optional.	Data you will collect	Briefly describe: what happened during the test, surprises, difficulty getting data, obstacles, successes, etc.	What were the results? Comment on your predictions in the rows below. Were they correct? Record any data summaries as well.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruit counselors 2. Select location where groups can sit in a circle 3. Agree on conversation starters 4. Invite all students 5. Special outreach to students who are chronically absent 6. Note which students attended after each session 	<i>Q1 - Prediction - All counselors are willing to help</i>	<i>Attendance of counselors</i>	<i>We had four counselors and 24 students. The students were split into groups of six. There was a miscommunication and the special outreach to chronically absent students did not happen.</i>	<i>All but one of the counselors showed up. She was out sick.</i>
	<i>Q2 - Prediction - Students who have satisfactory attendance and at-risk attendance will show up. Some students who are chronically absent will show up.</i>	<i>List of students who participate each Friday sorted into attendance categories.</i>		<i>Of the students who were invited, half showed up. Only about a quarter of the chronically absent students made it</i>
	<i>Q3 - Does attendance improve on Fridays?</i>	<i>Compare the total number of absences for targeted students on this Friday with the total number of absences for targeted students on previous Friday.</i>		<i>Yes, several of the chronically absent students who attended the lunch had been absent the previous Friday.</i>
	<i>Q4 - Are there any spillover effects?</i>	<i>Compare the total number of absences on the following Monday with previous Mondays.</i>		<i>The Monday absences were the same as the previous week.</i>

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Act: Describe modifications and/or decisions for the next PDSA cycle. What will you do next?

Adapt (tweak the process and try again)

Adopt (make this my standard process)

Expand (try this for a longer period of time)

Abandon (go to a new change idea)

- Ask our assistant principal to be the backup in case anyone is out
- Ask students for ideas about a special activity they want to do as a group to build connections among group members
- We will text every student with a reminder to attend
- Expand and repeat for the next two weeks.