

August 2015

Volume 4, Issue 8

Project 10 Topical Briefs are published on a monthly basis. Each issue focuses on a specific topic or theme.

This month the *Topical Brief* is focused on **Attendance**

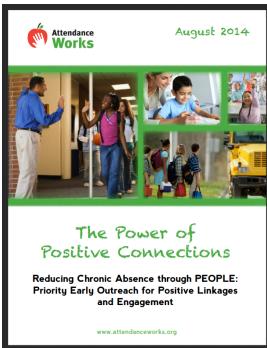


Attendance Works Toolkits

The Power of Positive Connections Toolkit

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/assessments/power-positive-connections-toolkit/>

This toolkit calls for using absenteeism records from past years and from the first month of school to connect the most at-risk students to personal relationships and positive supports that motivate them to show up to class every day. As students head back to school, the toolkit provides a step-by-step guide to a data-driven strategy known as PEOPLE, which stands for Priority Early Outreach through Positive Linkages and Engagement.



Count Us In! Toolkit

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/count-us-in-toolkit/>

This toolkit is designed to help plan involvement activities and enlist stakeholders who can help get the message out about the importance of attendance. The toolkit offers a variety of options for promoting good attendance. This resource provides

options to choose in order to find the best fit for the school and/or district and build the support needed to do more in the following year.

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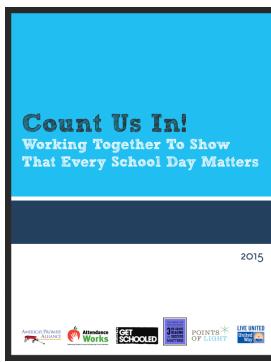
Check & Connect: Attend-Engage-Invest Toolkit *Coming Soon*



http://checkandconnect.umn.edu/research/attend_engage_invest.html

Check & Connect researchers are currently developing a toolkit to help teachers and other educational professionals guide students through the attend-engage-invest continuum, in which students:

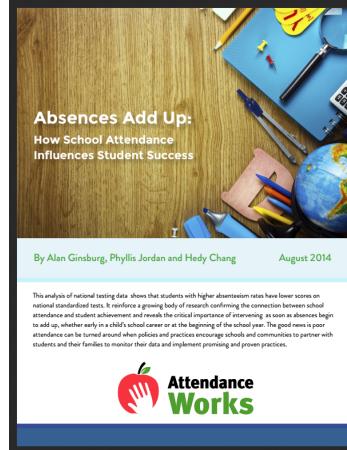
- **Attend** school regularly and successfully complete high school;
- **Engage** academically, behaviorally, cognitively, and affectively in school; and set goals for their future; and
- **Invest** time, effort, and talents into reaching those goals.



Absences Add Up: How School Attendance Influences Student Success

http://www.attendanceworks.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Absenses-Add-Up_September-3rd-2014.pdf

This 2014 analysis of national testing data shows that students with higher absenteeism rates have lower scores on national standardized tests. It reinforces a growing body of research confirming the connection between school attendance and student achievement and reveals the critical importance of intervening as soon as absences begin to add up. The good news is poor attendance can be turned around when policies and practices encourage schools and communities to partner with students and their families to monitor their data and implement promising and proven practices.

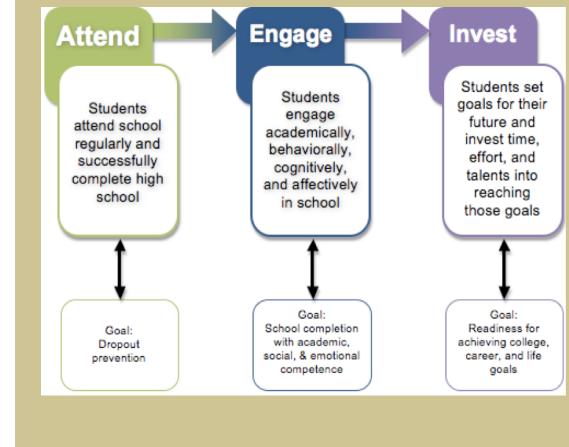


A Response to Intervention Model to Promote School Attendance and Decrease School Absenteeism

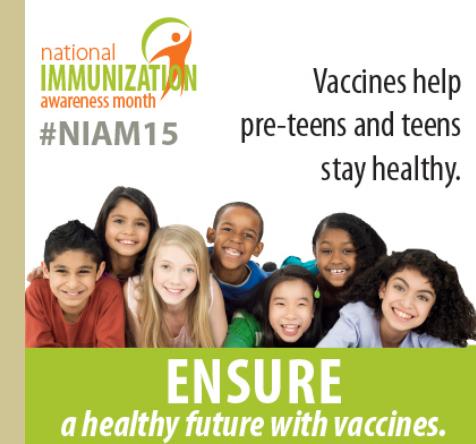
<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10566-013-9222-1>

This 2013 article serves to lay the foundation and suggest parameters for a Response to Intervention (RtI) model to promote school attendance and address school absenteeism. The authors found that an RtI framework promotes regular attendance for all students at Tier 1, targeted interventions for at-risk students at Tier 2, and intense and individualized interventions for students with chronic absenteeism at Tier 3. The authors propose that an RtI framework such as the one presented in this article could serve as a blueprint for researchers as well as educational, mental health and other professionals.

Kearney, C., & Graczyk, P. (2013). A response to intervention model to promote school attendance and decrease school absenteeism. *Child & Youth Care Forum Child Youth Care Forum*, 43(1), 1-25. doi:10.1007/s10566-013-9222-1



Immunization Awareness Month



<https://www.nphic.org/niam>

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (#NIAM15). The purpose of this observance is to highlight the importance of immunizations. The National Public Health Immunization Coalition has provided a toolkit to promote the importance of immunizations. The 2015 edition contains key messages, vaccine information, sample news releases and articles, sample social media messages, links to web resources from CDC and other organizations, as well as logos, web banners, posters and graphics to use with social media. To download the toolkit, please visit <https://www.nphic.org/niam-toolkit>.

NEW Graduation Requirements Online Module

<http://pdportal.florida-ese.org>

This module on Florida's high school graduation requirements describes the various high school completion options available to public school students in

Child Youth Care Forum (2014) 45:1–25
DOI 10.1007/s10606-013-9422-z

ORIGINAL PAPER

A Response to Intervention Model to Promote School Attendance and Decrease School Absenteeism

Christopher A. Kearney · Patricia Graczyk

Published online: 20 July 2013
© Springer Science+Business Media New York 2013

Abstract Regular school attendance is foundational to children's success but school absenteeism is common, serious, and highly vexing problem. Researchers from various disciplines have produced rich literature on the causes of school absenteeism and chronic absenteeism that has led to considerable confusion and lack of consensus about a pragmatic and coordinated assessment and intervention approach.

Objectives To describe the development of suggested parameters for a Response to Intervention (RTI) model to promote school attendance and address school absenteeism.

Method This is a theoretical paper guided by a systematic review of the empirical literature related to school attendance and absenteeism and the development of an RTI framework to address the needs of school-aged children and youth.

Results The results suggest that RTI models for school attendance should have both an emphasis on the need for early identification and intervention, progress monitoring, functional behavioral assessment, empirically supported procedures and protocols, and a team-based approach involving multiple stakeholders. The results also suggest that Tier 1, targeted interventions for at-risk students at Tier 2, and intense and individualized interventions for students with chronic absenteeism at Tier 3.

Conclusion The findings presented here could serve as a blueprint for researchers as well as educational, mental health, and other professionals. To develop this model and further enhance its utility for all youths, researchers and practitioners should strive for consensus in defining key terms related to school attendance and absenteeism and focus more on prevention and early intervention efforts.

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Florida. Specific emphasis is placed on options for students with disabilities. The module also provides additional resources for those who are interested in further information. It takes about three hours to complete.

project10 transition education network

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Online Training

This page provides information and links to training in Project 10's Secondary Transition Online Module series as well as online modules from Project 10's partners. The

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Categories

Attendance Resources

Attendance Works

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/>

This website offers tools, research, resources and training opportunities regarding attendance and absenteeism.

Check and Connect

<http://project10.info/ConLogin.php>

Check and Connect is a model of ongoing, systematic intervention and support to promote students' engagement at school and with learning. Ongoing research has documented that Check and Connect interventions have yielded increased attendance and persistence in school as well as decreased truancy and dropout rates. Find out more by visiting <http://www.checkandconnect.umn.edu/>.



Early Warning Systems in Education at the American Institutes for Research (AIR)

<http://www.earlywarningsystems.org/resources-tools/implementation-and-research>

This website offers publications, tools and guides on implementation and research regarding early warning systems for both middle and high schools to help increase attendance and graduation rates.

PACER Center, Tips for Working with Your Child's School When Chronic Conditions Cause Absences

<http://www.pacer.org/health/pdfs/HIAC-h25.pdf>

School attendance plays an important role in academic success. Children often fall behind in school if they frequently miss part of or an entire school day. This tip sheet can help children and parents succeed in school by understanding how schools define absences. Parents can also help by supporting their child's school attendance as much as possible.



Upcoming Events

2015 Educational Strategies & Student Engagement Institute (ESSEI): Destination Graduation

September 21-23, 2015

Orlando World Center Marriott, Orlando, FL

<http://www.cvent.com/events/2015-educational-strategies-student-engagement-institute/event-summary-ea2e3a00a5b3482c8b6684cd746adfa7.aspx>

The 2015 ESSEI conference unites professionals from various disciplines in support of our commitment to keep students in school, engage them in learning and to ensure that quality programs are available to enrich their learning. The 2015 ESSEI conference is designed to provide an opportunity to delve deeper into the factors that

impact students' decisions to dropout and also provide resources to enrich the capacity of educators and the community in responding to the charge of keeping students in school and helping them graduate and be prepared for life.

The 69th Annual Florida Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Conference

October 1-3, 2015

Hilton
Double Tree,
Orlando, FL



<http://www.floridacec.org/>

The Conference will continue the collaborative efforts with school districts, universities, family organizations, and Florida Student CEC. There will be nine strands highlighted this year with a focus on practitioners being the "heart and soul of special education". Presentation submissions are focused on celebrating diversity, effective instructional strategies and family involvement.



Destination Graduation



Upcoming Webinars

Finishing Strong: Address the Attendance Gap for Teens

August 12, 2015

2:00pm - 3:30pm EST

[https://events-](https://events-na1.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/17179333/en/events/event/shared/1312244105/event_landing.html?scoid=2029245194&_charset_=utf-8)

[na1.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/17179333/en/events/event/shared/1312244105/event_landing.html?scoid=2029245194&_charset_=utf-8](https://events-na1.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/17179333/en/events/event/shared/1312244105/event_landing.html?scoid=2029245194&_charset_=utf-8)

This webinar, hosted by Attendance Works, shows how communities can address the alarming attendance gap in the later grades. Attendance Works, in collaboration with Get Schooled, MENTOR and the Center for Supportive Schools, will share innovative and evidence-based strategies that help teens persist in going to school every day so they can finish strong.

Navigating the Workplace with Invisible Disabilities

August 19, 2015

5:00pm - 6:00pm

<http://flfcic.fmhi.usf.edu/program-areas/employment.html?tab=4>

This webinar is part of the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities' (FCIC) employment webinar series and serves as a tool to share information and resources for self-advocates, family members and other community partners to make informed choices and decisions about services, supports, policies and best practices to ensure their requests and service provisions are based on individual goals and outcomes.

Coping with the Employment Process: Effective Relaxation and Stress Management Techniques

September 16, 2015

5:00pm - 6:00pm

<http://flfcic.fmhi.usf.edu/program-areas/employment.html?tab=4>

This webinar is part of the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities' (FCIC) employment webinar series and serves as a tool to share information and resources for self-advocates, family members and other community partners to make informed choices and decisions about services, supports, policies and best practices to ensure their requests and service provisions are based on individual goals and outcomes.

The ABLE Act Implementation Tax Advantaged Savings Accounts: New Choices for Families to Create Pathways to a Better Quality of Life

September 24, 2015

1:00pm - 3:00pm

<http://ndi-inc.org/events/?id=106>

This webinar provides an opportunity to learn from thought leaders and ask questions that set the stage for more choices and better decisions about the possibilities for a better quality of life experience for people with disabilities. This webinar will also address federal policies and feature new tools and strategies to tap human potential.

LEAD Center's Section 188, the Nondiscrimination Provisions of WIOA

September 24, 2015

3:00pm - 4:30pm

<http://ndi-inc.org/events/?id=103>

This webinar is the last part of the LEAD Center's four-part webinar series on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

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About Project 10 Topical Briefs:

Project 10 *Topical Briefs* provide short information summaries and resource links related to secondary transition.

Have a question? Want to find or recommend a resource? Have some great news to share?

Send us an email at
project10@stpete.usf.edu

For back issues of Project 10 Topical Briefs, visit the newsletter page on the Project 10 website at

<http://www.project10.info/Newsletter.php>.

Project 10: Transition Education Network

assists Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes.

**Project 10: Transition Education Network
University of South Florida St. Petersburg**

Questions or comments?

Email us at
project10@stpete.usf.edu
www.Project10.info