

CARE Newsletter

Attendance & Engagement

MAY 2023



STRIVE for 95%

Strive for 95% attendance campaign is an end of year attendance and engagement Tier 1 campaign that focuses on challenging students to attend school every day in the remaining weeks of the academic year.

With district attendance historically dipping in May and in June, schools still have an opportunity to finish the year with strong attendance through the adoption and implementation of Tier I whole school initiatives guided by this:

[Strive for 95 Planner](#)

EVERY DAY COUNTS! *even the last*

We are making huge improvements in attendance at almost every school in the District this year. **Do NOT** let all of your hard work be in vain. Each year schools go into JUNE with the hard work they have done reflected in their low chronic absence and high ADA, but then as summer days get longer, students and staff alike count down to the last day of school. Some teachers and staff even tell students not to worry about attendance, those absences do NOT count...BUT THEY DO!

Make students WANT to attend, here are some ideas:

- Incentivize the LAST Day of school
- Have A SPIRIT DAY
- SPORTS DAY
- FAMILY PICNIC at lunch
- RAFFLE PRIZES- Must be present to WIN

Families are our customers-

how is your customer service?

One-third of parents surveyed said they don't know who at school to **contact or where to go when they have questions!**

How do you address students when they walk in the office late?

Do you say hello and offer to help every time a parent walks in ?

If you don't have an answer to a caller's question, do you find someone who does?

Chronic Absence Data

21-22
VS
22-23



* **Chronic Absence** is defined as:

Missing 10% or more of school for any reason, placing the student at academic risk.

(AUG 2021 - APRIL
2022)

34.7%

of students are
chronically absent

(AUG 2022 - APRIL
2023)

28.2%

of students are
chronically absent

TOTAL CHANGE

-6.5%

LESS CHRONICALLY ABSENT STUDENTS

Upcoming Events

care.scusd.edu



A&E Office Hours



Every Other Monday 11am- 12pm

FAQs

Log on via ZOOM

email Lucy-Lewis@scusd.edu

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

Meeting ID: 883 5642 3620

Passcode: 432121

Attendance and Engagement Office Hours

**Every other Monday
(Via zoom)
11:00am - 12:00pm**

Ask questions, get the latest updates and new information.

Email Lucy Lewis@scusd.edu to be added to the email list

AIM *end of year*

Friday
June 2, 2023

- ENGAGE: SITE Awards
- LEARN: DHA County Services for unhoused Families
- SHARE: Bright Spot

Attendance Improvement Movement

**Peer Learning Network
9:30 am- 11:00am**

Join your colleagues from schools across the district as we Engage, Learn and Share Attendance & Engagement Strategies

Email Onniel-Sanchez@scusd.edu to be added to the email list

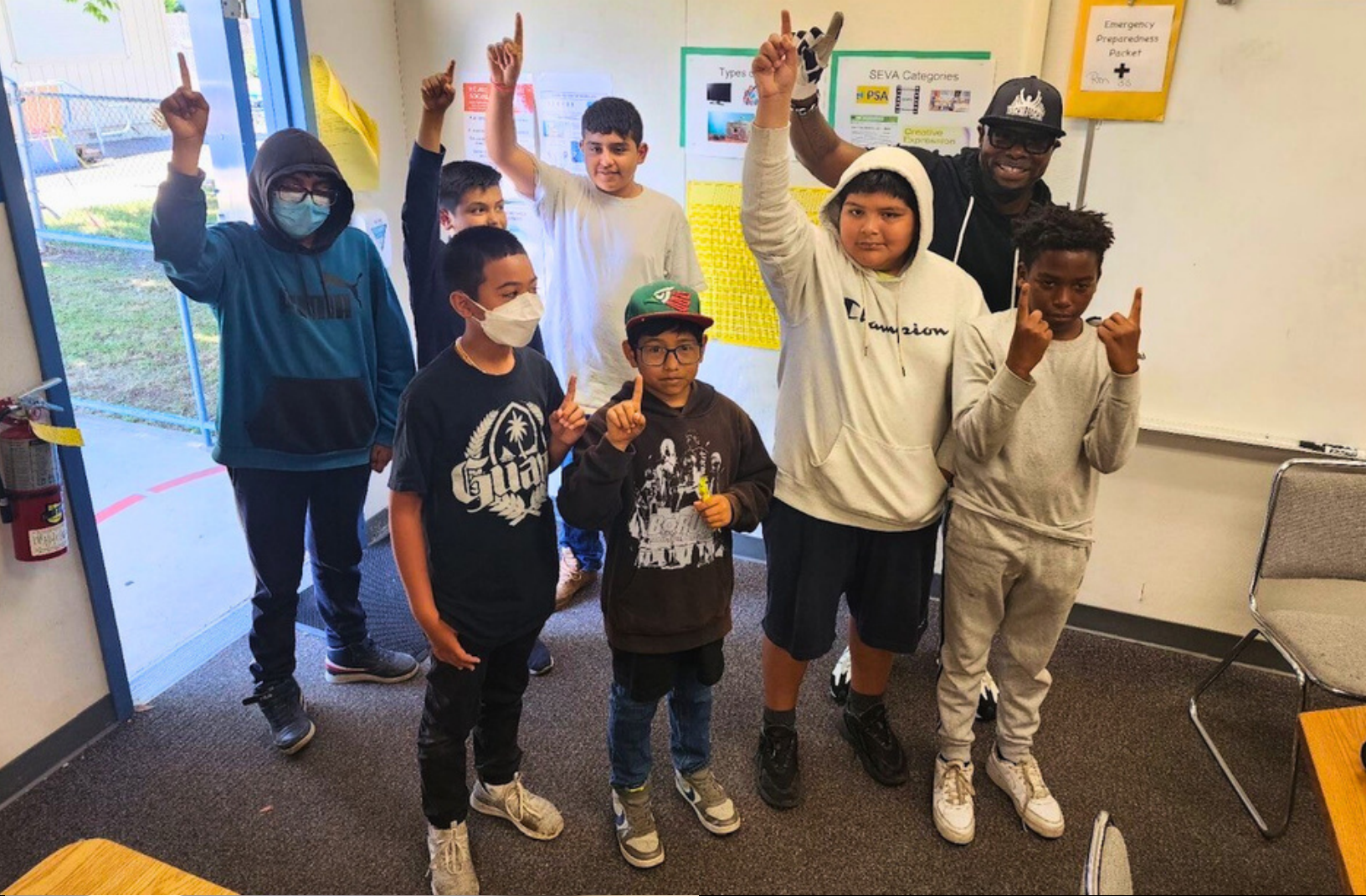
GREATNESS SQUAD **WITH** **KEVIN BRACY**



As Chronic Absence Rates improve across the District for most of our students in SCUSD, we are seeing the opposite for our boys of color. African American, Native American and Pacific Islander (many whom are Marshallese) male students are actually attending school less than last year. The Attendance Gap fuels the Achievement Gap which eventually leads to the school to prison pipeline. We have adapted the research based interventions of mentorship, small group and CICO to create an intervention that is specifically designed to target our Tier 2 (moderately chronically absent male 5th and 6th grade "black and brown" boys at 10 of our Focus Sites. While we cannot use other research to support our work we have been progress monitoring all year and so far the data is looking positive. These boys meet 1x a week for 6 weeks and have empowering conversations with Kevin, who is an African American man who grew up here in Sacramento We will share results at the beginning of next year!! Thank you Kevin Bracy of Reach 1 for helping to create the Greatness Squad at SCUSD!

Scroll for photos!

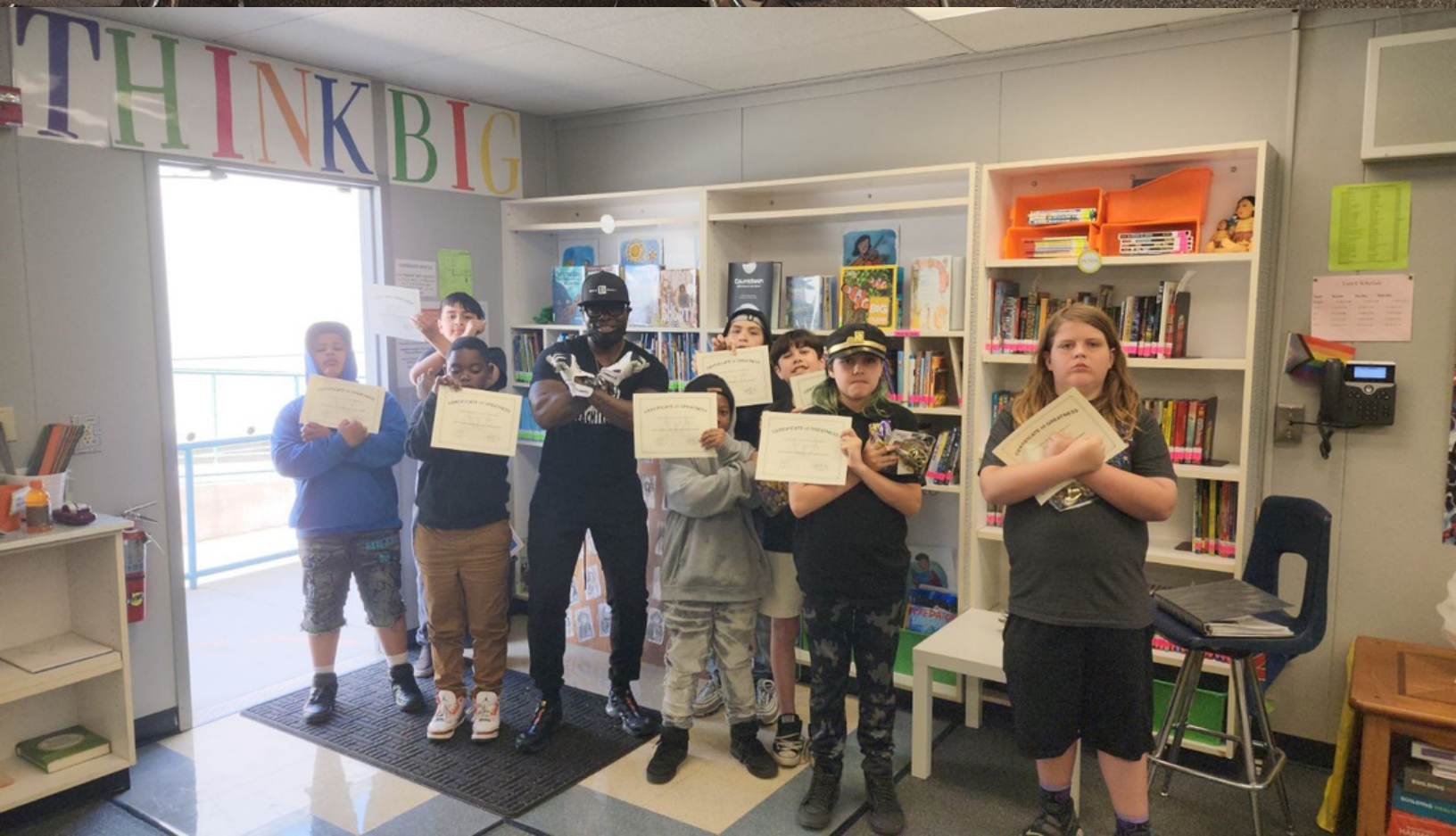




he got JORDANS

SURPRISE!

David Lubin, Tahoe,
Peter Burnet and
Pacific





Attendance in the News

New Research Finds Consistent School-Home Communication and Relationship Building Essential to Addressing Chronic Absenteeism in K-12 Schools

EL DORADO HILLS, Calif., May 16, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- As K-12 students recover from COVID pandemic learning disruptions, chronic absenteeism – which spiked during the pandemic – continues to be a critical issue in U.S. public schools, with some districts seeing even higher levels of absenteeism than during the pandemic.

A new report released today by [School Innovations and Achievement \(SI&A\)](#), shines a spotlight on this issue and provides insight into patterns of chronic absenteeism as well as details on mitigation strategies that have been highly successful at improving attendance in K-12 schools. The report, "[Chronic Absence Patterns Across California Schools](#)," analyzed attendance for nearly 325,000 PK-12 students in 30 districts across California from March 2022 to March 2023 and found that consistent school-home communication and data-informed, systemic interventions are vital for improving student attendance.

Key findings of the report include:

- **The Number of Hours Many Chronically Absent Students Are Missing is Severe** – The number of hours chronically absent students are missing is increasing and makes up a large portion of the school year. The SI&A analysis showed that nearly a third of public school students in the sample were chronically absent – meaning that as of late March, they had missed 10% or more of the school year. Students included in the sample missed a total of more than 15 million hours of learning time from 2022 to 2023.
- **Disparities in Absence Rates by Demographic Groups Have Been Amplified** – Historically marginalized student groups continue to have higher rates of absenteeism and the differences in attendance rates by student groups are growing. This has implications for equity when considering academic recovery.
- **Positive, Proactive Communication Between School and Home is Effective at Addressing Absenteeism** – Increased, positive communication between school and home, as well as data-informed systemic interventions, are effective for addressing absenteeism.
- **Transition Grades Are Key Years for Attendance Interventions** – Transition years are key grades to prioritize for building good attendance habits. Elevated absence rates in Kindergarten make parent education on the importance of early learning critical. Early intervention and outreach in these grades help to ensure smooth transitions as students progress in their academic careers.

"We know that school attendance is the number one predictor of student success, which underscores the urgency of finding effective interventions for the growing rate of chronic absenteeism in U.S. schools," said Erica Peterson, SI&A National Education Manager, and a co-author of the report. "Interventions focused on areas such as school-home communication and relationship building need to be prioritized as districts work to support good attendance habits and get students back on track academically."

SI&A is an education software company that provides innovative, data-driven solutions that help K-12 school administrators track, manage and improve student attendance. SI&A has been working with California school districts for 20+ years to address and improve absenteeism. The "Chronic Absence Patterns Across California Schools," report shows that overall, SI&A partners saw better levels of attendance throughout the state with some achieving dramatic increases in attendance. In Sanger Unified School District, for example, a district that works with SI&A, the rate of chronic absenteeism decreased from 31% to 17% from 2022 to 2023.

Based on its work with schools over the last 20+ years, SI&A offers the following recommendations for districts addressing absenteeism:

- Set the expectation for the year ahead and what it means to be successful
- Communicate with targeted, positive messaging to all families and home adults at all levels about the importance of good attendance habits
- Address any language and technology barriers to make sure that communications about attendance are reaching home adults
- Schedule regular intervals to analyze the attendance data and make course corrections as necessary

About the SI&A "Chronic Absence Patterns Across California Schools" Report

SI&A is a supplier of reports for the California Department of Education, which help provide information on the state of attendance. The company was contacted by the Department of Education in 2020 to help offer data and insight on absenteeism. The SI&A "Chronic Absence Patterns Across California Schools" report includes data from March 2022 through March 2023, and examined attendance for nearly 325,000 PK-12 students in the 30 districts across 17 counties in California. To learn more, you can [download the full report here](#).



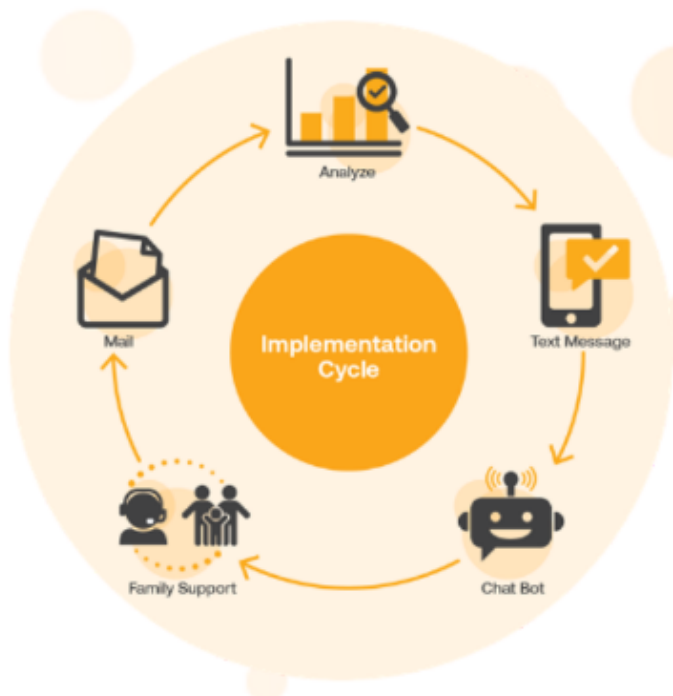
Attendance Corner – EveryDay Labs

EveryDay Labs is and has been an important partner in our efforts to reduce absenteeism district-wide. Their Harvard Research based reports:

- Provide the number of days missed
- Helpful tips to support improving attendance
- A phone number to a family support team for questions and concerns
- An option to opt out of future mailings/texts

Mail Nudge	May 19, 2023
Text Nudge	May 30, 2023
Text Nudge	June 6, 2023

EveryDay Intervention Provides a Continuous Cycle of Access to Support



Families of at-risk students are automatically enrolled in the program and will continue to receive proactive support with the goal of moving their student into an improved attendance tier.

Families will receive up to six nudges by mail per year at times that are proven to be most impactful to attendance improvement.

Families will receive text nudges twice per month with an update on the number of days their student has missed along with a friendly reminder they can simply text our 24/7 Support Bot for help. Additionally, families can receive check in surveys up to two times per year. Support

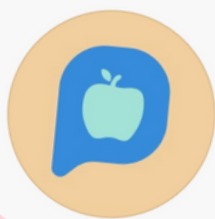
Bot and survey responses are reported back to the district to help identify systemic barriers to attendance.

Source Media Agency



Follow us on Instagram!

Free giveaways for
students, and
attendance fun!



care.scusd

Message



232 posts

306 followers

153 following

Connect.Ask.Engage.Relate

Education

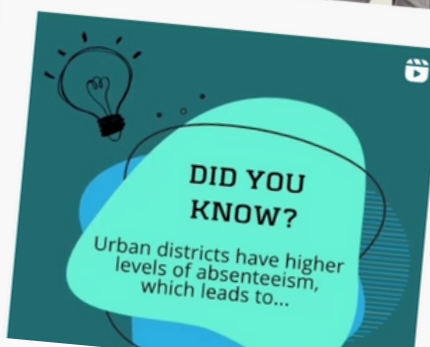
The attendance awareness hub of the Sacramento City Unified School District

Followed by originalgiftedsoul, highlevel_jay_, brianashanay + 49 more

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REELS

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*Thank
You!!!*

visit care.scusd.edu