# Student Attendance Patterns and Trends Across California 

## Introductions



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## Pandemic Impact: A New Bubble

## This year's third graders have never experienced a "normal" or traditional school year.

## Attendance Habits

are learned, and we need to take a back to the fundamentals approach

| CURRENT GRADE | LAST NORMAL GRADE |
| :---: | :---: |
| $12^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $8^{\text {th }}$ Grade |
| $11^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $7^{\text {th }}$ Grade |
| $10^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $6^{\text {th }}$ Grade |
| $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $5^{\text {th }}$ Grade |
| $8^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $4^{\text {th }}$ Grade |
| $7^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Grade |
| $6^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Grade |
| $5^{\text {th }}$ Grade | $1^{\text {st }}$ Grade |
| $4^{\text {th }}$ Grade | Kindergarten |
| $3^{\text {rd }}$ Grade | Never |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Grade | Never |
| $1^{\text {st }}$ Grade | Never |
| Kindergarten | Never |

How do we "reset" the academic requirements of high school to prepare students for the college experience?

What will be the impact of not having a middle school transition experience?

How many Students will be reading by $3^{\text {rd }}$ Grade?

## Opening Thoughts

- Like SY 2021/22, the opening of the 2022/2023 school year will be effected by COVID (BA.5)
- Districts need to have a plan that starts now, not September, to promote attendance expectations while calling out ongoing safety efforts.
- You can and should expect students to come to school
- Proactive \& prescriptive approach, not punitive
- Plans should not be solely reliant on staff hiring (see 1st bullet)
- Right now, you can (we recommend) market your offerings to your families
- Due to COVID, we recommend including attendance code(s) that allow insights as to why students are absent.


# SI\&A Compared to California Dashboard Chronic Absenteeism Calculations* 

## SI\&A

1. Includes all active students
2. Does not include suspensions
3. Includes all students regardless of how many days enrolled
4. A2A calculates on a day equivalent basis
5. A2A includes all students including PK/TK.
6. A2A calculates every student enrolled in the district per the above mentioned

## California Dashboard

1. Includes all active and inactive students
2. Includes suspensions
3. Includes only students that have been enrolled more than 30 days
4. State rate calculates on all day absences only
5. State rate includes Transitional Kindergarten and up.
6. State is currently looking at TK-8, excluding high school

## Demographics



The pie chart displays the racial/ethnic composition of the dataset.

This composition resembles the overall California enrollment.

| Race/Ethnicity | Percent of Population |
| :--- | :---: |
| Hispanic/Latino | $63 \%$ |
| White | $19 \%$ |
| Black | $8 \%$ |
| Asian | $6 \%$ |
| Multiple Ethnicities | $2 \%$ |
| Filipino | $1 \%$ |
| Native American/Alaskan | $1 \%$ |
| Pacific Islander | $0.5 \%$ |

## Declining Enrollment

We have seen and continue to see declining enrollment across most districts.


## The Attendance Crisis Has Gotten Worse



## Chronic Absence Rates by District Type

- Unified School Districts have the largest rate of increase/growth rate in chronic rates.
- Elementary School Districts have the highest chronic rate ( $28 \%$ of their students are chronically absent).

|  |  |  |  | Jun 2021 vs. Jun 2022 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| District Type | Jun 2020 Chronic Absence Rate | Jun 2021Chronic Absence Rate | Jun 2022 Chronic Absence Rate | SI\&A Rate of Increase | Est. Non-SI\&A Rate of Increase |
| ESD | 11.7\% | 19.4\% | 29.3\% | 51.0\% | 113.5\% |
| HSD | 18.5\% | 28.1\% | 23.7\% | -15.5\% | 14.4\% |
| USD | 12.8\% | 16.1\% | 28.2\% | 74.9\% | 126.9\% |

## Chronic Absence Rate by District Size

The largest rate of increase in chronic rates is seen in districts with 3500-5000 student enrollment.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| District Size | Jun 2020 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2021Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2022 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | SI\&A Rate of <br> Increase | Jun 2021 vs. Jun 2022 <br> Rate of <br> Increase |
| $<3500$ | $9.8 \%$ | $20.5 \%$ | $23.2 \%$ | $13.2 \%$ | $54.2 \%$ |
| $3500-5000$ | $16.1 \%$ | $17.8 \%$ | $33.8 \%$ | $89.9 \%$ | $137.0 \%$ |
| $5000-10000$ | $11.8 \%$ | $14.9 \%$ | $24.9 \%$ | $67.8 \%$ | $124.3 \%$ |
| $10000-20000$ | $14.1 \%$ | $22.0 \%$ | $33.5 \%$ | $52.4 \%$ | $90.6 \%$ |
| $>20000$ | $15.3 \%$ | $19.5 \%$ | $23.6 \%$ | $21.4 \%$ | $64.6 \%$ |

## Chronic Absence Rate By Grade



## Enrollment Down \& Chronic Absences Up

Changes in Enrollment \& Chronic Absences by Grade from 2020-21 to YTD 2021-22


## Missed Learning Time by Grade as of Jun. 2022

Total Missed Hours of Learning Time: 17,562,416 Hours


## Average Missed Learning Time by Grade

Ava. Instructional Hours: 1049 Hours



## Chronic Absences Highest for Black \& Hispanic Students



Relative Chronic Absence Rate Trends by Top 5 Ethnicities


## Missed Learning Time by Ehtnicity

Average Missed Learning Time by Top 5 Ethnicities

Avg. Instructional Hours: 1049 Hours


## Subgroup Analysis

|  |  |  | Jun 2021 vs. Jun 2022 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Language Status | Jun 2020 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2021 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2022 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Increase in Chronic | Rate of Increase | Est. Non-SI\&A <br> Rate of Increase |
| English Language Learner | $15.4 \%$ | $24.6 \%$ | $32.5 \%$ | $7.9 \%$ | $31.9 \%$ | $66.0 \%$ |
| Non English Language Learner | $13.6 \%$ | $17.6 \%$ | $25.8 \%$ | $8.2 \%$ | $46.6 \%$ | $94.3 \%$ |


| Jun 2021 vs. Jun 2022 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Socioeconomic | Jun 2020 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2021 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2022 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Increase in Chronic | Rate of Increase | Est. Non-SI\&A <br> Rate of Increase |  |  |
| Free \& Reduced Lunch | $17.0 \%$ | $24.5 \%$ | $31.4 \%$ | $6.9 \%$ | $27.9 \%$ | $62.2 \%$ |  |  |
| Paid Lunch | $9.7 \%$ | $11.0 \%$ | $20.4 \%$ | $9.4 \%$ | $85.8 \%$ | $162.4 \%$ |  |  |


|  |  |  |  | Jun 2021 vs. Jun 2022 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Foster Care | Jun 2020 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2021 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Jun 2022 Chronic <br> Absence Rate | Increase in Chronic | Rate of Increase | Est. Non-SI\&A <br> Rate of Increase |
| Foster Care | $17.2 \%$ | $23.0 \%$ | $37.4 \%$ | $14.4 \%$ | $62.3 \%$ | $98.8 \%$ |
| Permanent Housing | $11.6 \%$ | $14.5 \%$ | $29.3 \%$ | $14.8 \%$ | $102.6 \%$ | $160.7 \%$ |

## SaveRATE

| Notification Type | At Risk | Saved | SaveRATE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unexcused Absence Letter 1 | 196,306 | 74,694 | $\mathbf{3 8 . 0 \%}$ |
| Excused Absence Letter 1 | 85,359 | 51,802 | $\mathbf{6 0 . 7 \%}$ |

SaveRate $=\%$ of students who did not require additional intervention after receiving a notification.
Pre-pandemic the initial notification SaveRATE was $55 \%$. In $21 / 22$ it was $46 \%$.

## 2021-22 SaveRATE by Ethnicity


*Top 5 largest ethnic/racial subgroups.



## For Your District to Send Intervention Communications

- We have found that districts typically have a multi-step, multi-person, multidepartmental personnel dependent way to send out one negative (punitive, Ed. Code-driven) letter
- Needs to occur daily at each school site
- Attendance staff decides: without oversight, equity isn't built into the process

Timely?
Identify Students
Determine data points to run a query
Run the query or request a query from IT support



Accurate?
Review Student Details - Filter out unwanted student data - Create a mail merge


## Take the burden off staff's plate AMS save staff time and energy.

- Automated, equitable support reduced selfreported staff time on task by 50\% - 75+\%

Positive, engagement-driven Communications:
-46\%
of families who received positive notifications in their home language changed attendance patterns

Tier 1 Interventions


## Results: Tier One Communications Have an Immediate Impact

## Chronic Absences by Week



* First batch of attendance letters mailed districtwide results in an immediate reduction in chronic absence behavior.


## CHANGING PARENT'S HABITS





## IMPROVED STUDENT OUTCOMES

## Targeted Messaging Effectiveness

Results from families receiving positive, educational communications on the importance of coming to school.

Results: Tier 2 Proactive Communications

