

# The Impact of Chronic Absenteeism on Key K-12 Stakeholders

Attendance is key. Open the door to learning.



# Every Day Counts

Addressing chronic absenteeism fosters a stable, supportive, and productive school environment, leading to better educational outcomes.

**PowerSchool's 2024 Education Focus Report found that seven in 10 educators agree that student attendance has been a significant challenge in their school system since the pandemic.**

[The Brown Center on Education Policy at the Brookings Institution](#) reports that between 2018-19 and 2021-22, the percentage of K-12 students who were chronically absent—defined as missing 10% of the school year, or 18 learning days—almost doubled nationally, from 15% to 28%. In 2022-23, rates declined only slightly and are still well above pre-pandemic levels.<sup>1</sup>

Mental health, lack of engagement in school, and transportation challenges are among the top reasons for excessive absenteeism. The impact resonates far beyond a day of lost learning. Consequences include:

- Learning gaps
- Lower graduation rates
- Weakened social development
- Reduced college and career opportunities
- Increased achievement gap
- Weakened civil engagement

See the key challenges of chronic absenteeism and the benefits of regular attendance on eight key stakeholders.





### Teachers



### Counselors and Student Support



### Parents and Guardians



### Peers (Students)

## Challenges

- Difficulty maintaining lesson continuity
- Extra time needed for catch-up
- Reduced classroom engagement and management

- Higher caseloads due to underlying issues linked to absenteeism
- Limited ability to provide consistent, tailored support

- Struggles supporting missed lessons and managing makeup work
- Inconsistent attendance communication with school

- Disrupted group activities and reduced peer interactions

## Benefits of Regular Attendance

- Smoother lesson and curriculum progression
- Stronger classroom cohesion and greater student engagement
- Improved academic outcomes

- Proactive, impactful support
- Lower crisis interventions
- Effective skill-building and remediation

- Reduced burden at home to manage catch-up work
- Stronger collaboration with school staff

- Stronger classroom dynamics
- Enhanced collaboration and engagement



### District Administrators



### School Administrators



### School Nurses



### School Resource Officers

## Challenges

- Complicated reporting and resource allocation caused by chronic absenteeism

- Increased interventions take time and resources
- Poor attendance impacts funding
- Inconsistent engagement harms school culture

- Missed health monitoring and relationship-building

- Increased safety concerns and truancy management

## Benefits of Regular Attendance

- More reliable data on student outcomes
- Increased funding and maintenance of quality programs

- Focus on academics, not absences
- Higher attendance boosts funding
- Stronger school culture

- Consistent health oversight
- Early intervention in health issues

- Safer, more engaged school environment
- Positive student interactions

# Consistent Attendance, Lifelong Benefits

Reduce chronic absenteeism and increase student attendance.

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**PowerSchool Attendance Intervention is an all-in-one solution for attendance interventions and communications.**

Identify early warning signs, strengthen family partnerships, and protect and increase state funding by improving attendance and reducing chronic absenteeism.

[LEARN MORE](#)





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