

Chronic Absenteeism: Reclaiming Instructional Time

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What is Chronic Absenteeism?

- A student is classified to be chronically absent if they miss 10% or more of the school year. That is 18 days in a 180-day school year and is equal to nearly one month of instructional days.
- A student is classified as severely chronically absent if they miss 20% or more days (36 days).
- Nevada state law (NRS 392.050 & 392.124) allow for several exempted absences (e.g. medical, religious); However, federal law does not allow these exemptions from the calculation of chronic absenteeism.
- Why doesn't federal law allow for exemptions?

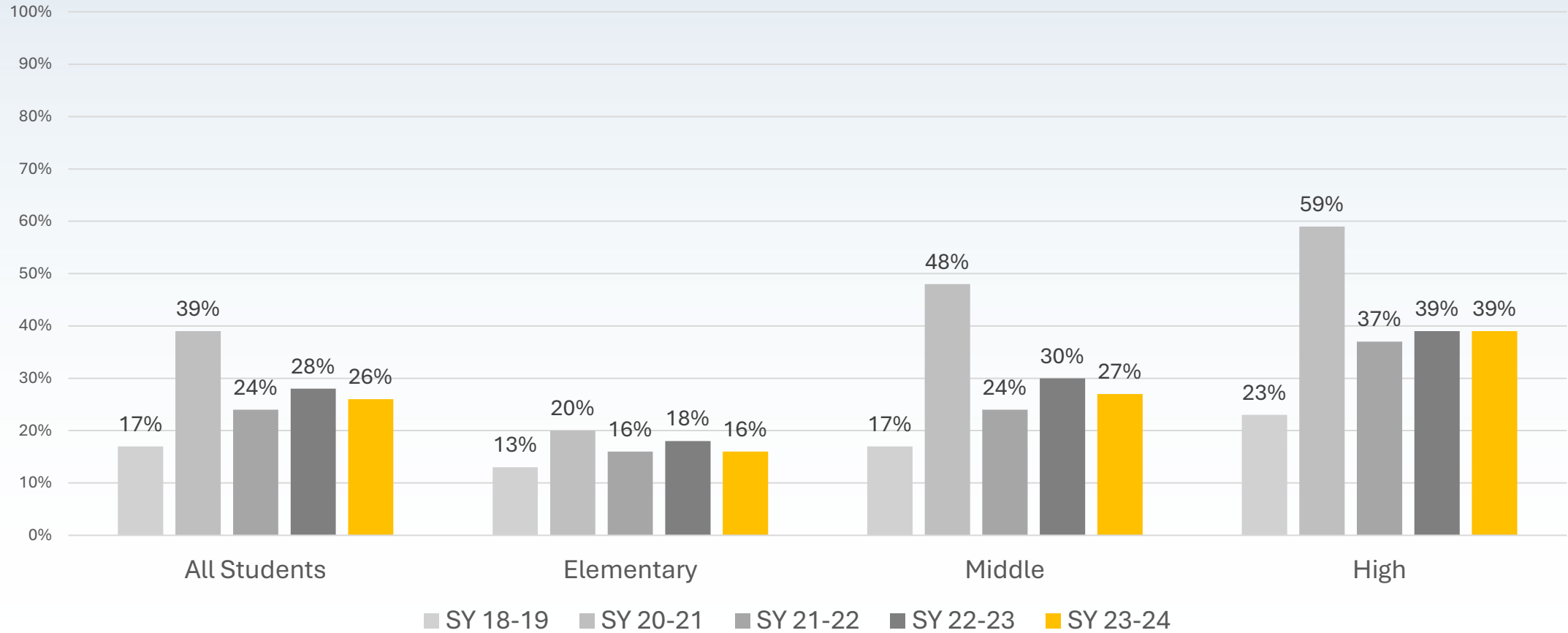


Instruction Matters!

- 180 school days per year
 - In 2022-23 on average, non-chronically absent students missed 6.8 school days
 - By contrast, chronically absent students missed 32.5 school days
- For every student we move off the chronically absent list, we regain approximately 25 days of instruction
- Districtwide, for every 1% drop in chronic absenteeism, (e.g. 630 students), we are reclaiming approximately 15,750 days of instruction!!!



Trends in Chronic Absenteeism Rates



School Celebrations

- 7 of our high schools reclaimed instructional days from SY22-23 to SY23-24
 - 3 are within 5% of their 2019 chronic absenteeism rate!
 - **1 has lower rates today than in SY18-19!!!**
- 13 of our middle schools reclaimed instructional days from SY22-23 to SY23-24
 - 4 are within 5% of their 2019 chronic absenteeism rate!
- 45 of our elementary schools reclaimed instructional days from SY22-23 to SY23-24
 - 40 are within 5% of their 2019 chronic absenteeism rate!
 - **16 have lower rates today than in SY18-19!!!**

Root Causes

- Basic needs issues
 - ✓ Transportation
 - ✓ Employment instability
 - ✓ Housing instability including homelessness
- Mental Health Concerns
 - ✓ Anxiety
 - ✓ Bullying and school-based fears
- Academic Frustration
 - ✓ Cumulative effect of missed instruction
 - ✓ Cycle of disruptive behavior

Critical Themes and Strategies

- Relationships, relationships, relationships (School Climate)
- Systems and structures and the effective use of data
- Daily attention
- Engagement

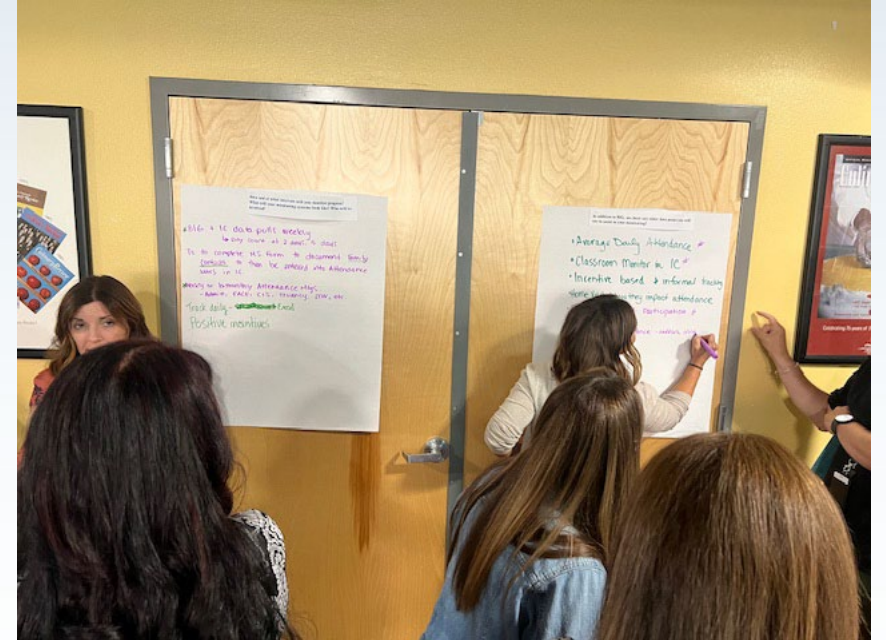
Actions – Capacity Building – First 60 Days



- Completed thus far
 - Training all school leaders on reclaiming instructional time
 - 5 all school opportunities for training on attendance process and procedures
 - 23 schools have (scheduled) received training/coaching from Intervention Dept.
 - All ES counselors scheduled for training
 - All MS administrators will have Check-In Check-Out (CICO) training opportunity

Actions – Systems & Structures – First 60 Days

- School Performance Planning (SPP)
 - Aligning school-based efforts explicitly through the SPP
- Department Connections
 - Bi-weekly updates regarding MTSS attendance process
- Training for Principals to support building systems to reduce chronic absenteeism
- Associate Chief & Principal data monitoring and analysis every 1-2 weeks



Actions – Community Task Force – First 60 Days

Strengthen Our Community



*Katy Simon Holland - Strategic Advisor
for Strengthen Our Community*



*Mike Kazmierski - Executive Director
of Strengthen Our Community*

Actions – Community Task Force – First 60 Days

- Began in Spring of 2024
 - Membership
 - Priorities
 - Funding and Action to Date
 - Attendance Campaign
 - MS Engagement Project
 - Expansion of CIS (middle school)
 - Education Alliance Fund Raiser

Actions – Evaluation Efforts – First 60 Days

- Monthly monitoring meetings with Office of Accountability.
- Target of evaluative efforts
 - Gross Outcomes
 - Capacity building
 - Data system and uses
 - MS Engagement Project
 - Check In Check Out study (WestEd)
 - Effectiveness of deployed staff (e.g. attendance officers)

Key Metrics for the 2024-25 School Year

- Whole District – 22% (-4%)
 - Elementary – 13% (-3%)
 - Middle School – 22% (-4%)
 - High School – 34% (-4%)
- Leading Metrics
 - Success rates on 20-day monitors (attendance officers)
 - Numbers of schools receiving ongoing support and coaching
 - Engagement at Academy's and other Professional Learning opportunities

Thank You
Questions?