CCPS

COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Systems that Stick: Driving Attendance and Academic Achievement in Collier County

Dr. Leslie Ricciardelli
Superintendent

Percentage of Students Absent 21 or More Days

2023-24 Absenteeism Data with 2023-24 District Grade

District	2023-24 School Grade	Total Enrollment	# of Students Absent 21 or More Days	% of Students Absent 21 or More Days
COLLIER	A	52,358	4837	9.2%
ST. JOHNS	A	53,686	6205	11.6%
SARASOTA	A	48,376	5613	11.6%
WALTON	A	12,522	1751	14.0%
SUMTER	A	10,359	1595	15.4%
SEMINOLE	A	69,560	10934	15.7%
MIAMI-DADE	A	367,362	63407	17.3%
LAFAYETTE	A	1,206	211	17.5%
NASSAU	A	13,496	3142	23.3%
INDIAN RIVER	A	17,916	4282	23.9%

Correlating Attendance and Academic Achievement

SY 23-24 Survey 5 Data

- Lowest percentage of students absent 21 or more days in FL school districts
- Lowest percentage of students absent 10% or more

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Students Absent 21 or More Days and Absent 10% or More Comparsion by District 2023-24, Final Survey 5

Please see NOTES for Comparsion Methodology.

District #	District Name	Total Enrollment	# of Students Absent 21 or More Days	% of Students Absent 21 or More Days	# of Students Enrolled 10 or More Days	# of Students Absent 10% or More	% of Students Absent 10% or More
00	**FLORIDA**	**3,153,549**	**626,564**	**19.9%**	**3,110,902**	**976,305**	**31.4%**
01	ALACHUA	31,516	6,200	19.7%	31,025	9,791	31.6%
02	BAKER	4,911	1,021	20.8%	4,892	1,523	31.1%
03	BAY	30,652	6,677	21.8%	30,244	10,665	35.3%
04	BRADFORD	3,169	911	28.7%	3,120	1,375	44.1%
05	BREVARD	79,064	9,075	11.5%	78,425	16,535	21.1%
06	BROWARD	271,881	61,317	22.6%	266,817	89,683	33.6%
07	CALHOUN	2,158	687	31.8%	2,152	978	45.4%
08	CHARLOTTE	18,331	3,510	19.1%	18,177	5,668	31.2%
09	CITRUS	17,275	4,018	23.3%	17,015	6,412	37.7%
10	CLAY	46,507	7,967	17.1%	46,301	12,370	26.7%
11	COLLIER	52,358	4,837	9.2%	51,833	9,007	17.4%
12	COLUMBIA	10,303	2,610	25.3%	10,219	3,865	37.8%

2021-2025 District Grades and Attendance Comparison

Grading Component	SY21	SY22	SY23	SY24	SY25
Grade 3 ELA Achievement	--	--	--	65	66
ELA Achievement	57	58	56	61	66
ELA Learning Gains	52	55	--	61	64
ELA Learning Gains Lowest 25%	39	41	--	55	59
Math Achievement	60	65	68	71	73
Math Learning Gains	53	63	--	67	67
Math Learning Gains Lowest	46	58	--	63	63
Science Achievement	59	60	63	66	68
Social Studies Achievement	68	70	69	72	78
Middle School Acceleration	83	84	79	81	83
High School Graduation Rate	92	93	92	91	91
High School Acceleration	73	70	68	67	70
Total Points	681	717	495	820	848
Total Components	11	11	7	12	12
Percent	**62%**	**65%**	**71%**	**68%**	**71%**
Grade	**A**	**A**	**A**	**A**	**A**
% of Students Absent 21 or More Days	**10.0%**	**14.4%**	**10.1%**	**9.2%**	**--**
% of Students Absent 10% or More	**17.5%**	**24.3%**	**18.4%**	**17.4%**	**--**

Florida Statute 1003.26 Overview

- Monitor daily attendance and identify patterns of non-attendance
- Initiate contact with parents after each unexcused absence or pattern of absences
- Schedule meetings with parents to determine the reason for absences and develop a plan for regular attendance (Multi-Tiered System of Supports)
- Implement school-based interventions (e.g., problem-solving teams, counseling, attendance contracts, referrals to support services)
- Document all interventions, contacts, and attempted remedies prior to escalating the case

Florida Statute 1003.26 Overview

- Develop an intervention plan through the team, including monitoring and support
- If non-attendance persists, schools must refer the case to the Superintendent for:
  - Truancy petition in Circuit Court
- Provide all required documentation to support the truancy petition (attendance records, parent contacts, interventions attempted)
- Continue collaborating with agencies/court until compliance improves

Florida Statute 1003.26

- CONTACT, REFER, AND ENFORCE.—

  (a) Upon each unexcused absence, or absence for which the reason is unknown, **the school principal or his or her designee must contact the student's parent to determine the reason for the absence**.

  (b) If a student has had at least five unexcused absences…within a calendar month or 10 unexcused absences…within a 90-calendar-day period…**the principal must refer the case to the school's child study team** to determine if early patterns of truancy are developing.

  (c) If the parent or child fails to attend the child study team meeting, the meeting shall be held in his or her absence, and **the child study team shall make written recommendations to remediate the truancy** based upon the information available to the school.

Florida Statute 1003.26

- CONTACT, REFER, AND ENFORCE.—

  (c) The recommendations shall be provided to the parent within 7 days after the child study team meeting. **If the initial meeting does not resolve the problem, the child study team shall implement the following**:

  1. Frequent attempts at communication between the teacher and the family.

  2. Attempt to determine the reasons the child is truant from school and provide remedies…if the learning environment is an issue of concern.

  3. Evaluation for alternative education programs.

  4. Attendance contracts.

  (d) The child study team must be diligent in facilitating intervention services and shall **report the case to the district school superintendent only when all reasonable efforts to resolve the nonattendance behavior are exhausted**.

Consistent District-Wide Messaging

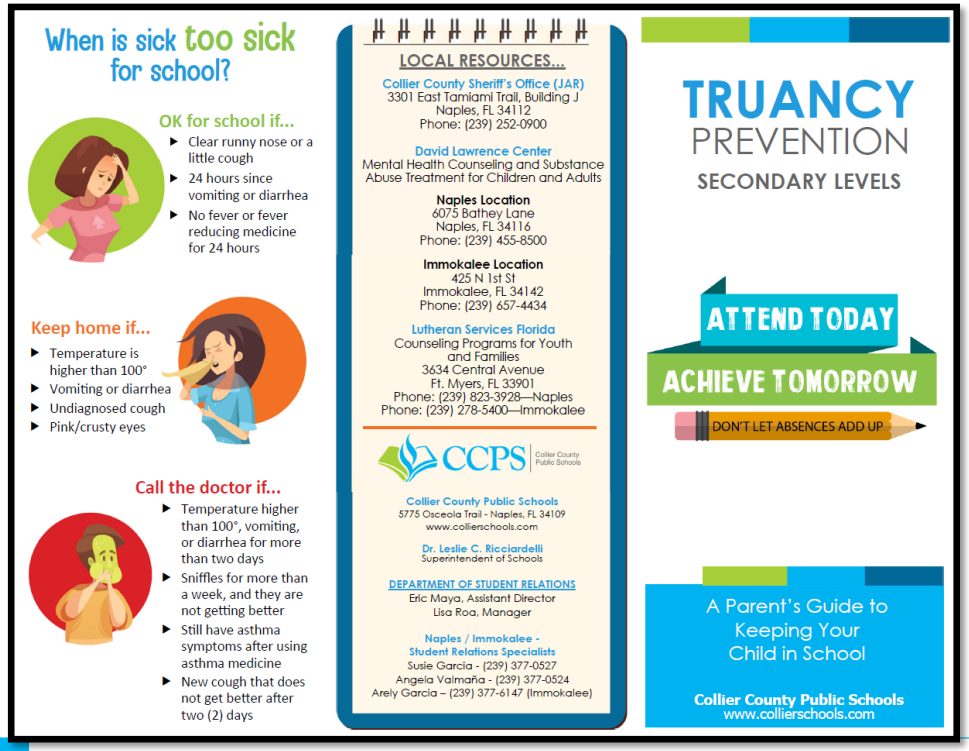
"*On Time, All Day, Every Day*" Attendance Campaign

- Strategic and timely messaging regarding attendance
- Ongoing communication to students and parents regarding expectations
- Posters displayed provide reminders to students
- Flyers, brochures, phone dialers, attendance letters, and social media posts include attendance campaign messages
- Vacation planning dates provided to parents in advance
- Visuals and messages in multiple languages
- Social media posts with attendance graphics

Consistent District-Wide Messaging

Secondary (6 – 12) Attendance Brochures

- Provided to students and parents during MTSS attendance meetings
- FL attendance laws, tips for parents, statistics, local resources



When is sick too sick for school?

OK for school if...
- Clear runny nose or a little cough
- 24 hours since vomiting or diarrhea
- No fever or fever reducing medicine for 24 hours

Keep home if...
- Temperature is higher than 100°
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Undiagnosed cough
- Pink/crusty eyes

Call the doctor if...
- Temperature higher than 100°, vomiting, or diarrhea for more than two days
- Sniffles for more than a week, and they are not getting better
- Still have asthma symptoms after using asthma medicine
- New cough that does not get better after two (2) days

LOCAL RESOURCES...

Collier County Sheriff's Office (JAR)
3301 East Tamiami Trail, Building J
Naples, FL 34112
Phone: (239) 252-0900

David Lawrence Center
Mental Health Counseling and Substance Abuse Treatment for Children and Adults

Naples Location
6075 Bathey Lane
Naples, FL 34116
Phone: (239) 455-8500

Immokalee Location
425 N 1st St
Immokalee, FL 34142
Phone: (239) 657-4434

Lutheran Services Florida
Counseling Programs for Youth and Families
3634 Central Avenue
Ft. Myers, FL 33901
Phone: (239) 823-3928—Naples
Phone: (239) 278-5400—Immokalee

CCPS Collier County Public Schools

Collier County Public Schools
5775 Osceola Trail - Naples, FL 34109
www.collierschools.com

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DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT RELATIONS
Eric Maya, Assistant Director
Lisa Roa, Manager

Naples / Immokalee - Student Relations Specialists
Susie Garcia - (239) 377-0527
Angela Valmaña - (239) 377-0524
Arely Garcia – (239) 377-6147 (Immokalee)

TRUANCY PREVENTION
SECONDARY LEVELS

ATTEND TODAY
ACHIEVE TOMORROW
DON'T LET ABSENCES ADD UP

A Parent's Guide to Keeping Your Child in School

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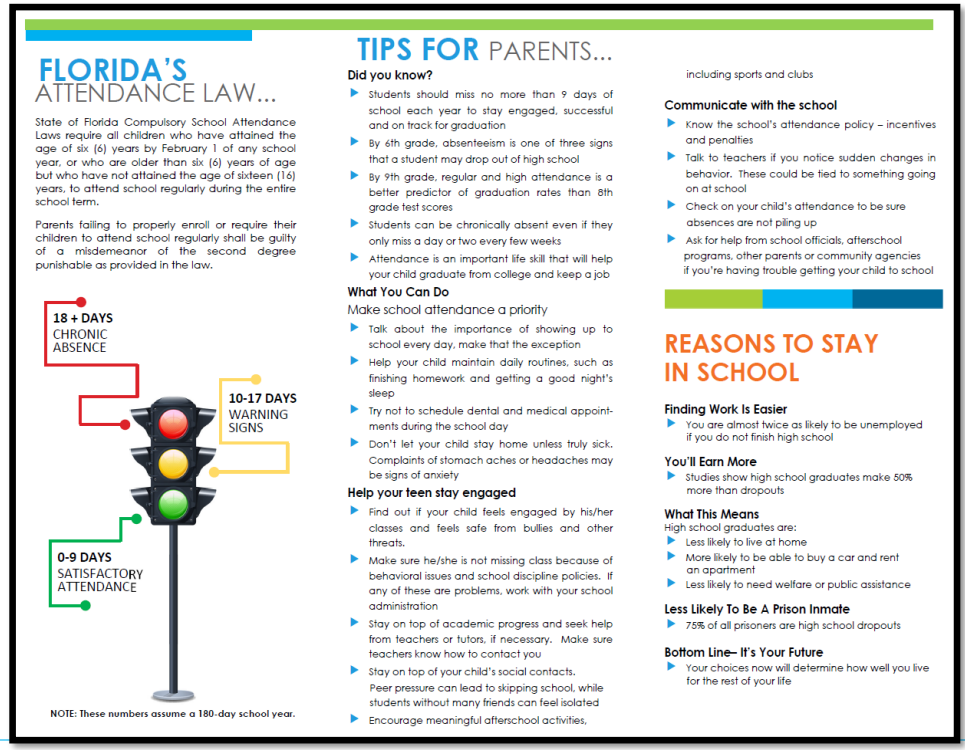


FLORIDA'S ATTENDANCE LAW...

State of Florida Compulsory School Attendance Laws require all children who have attained the age of six (6) years by February 1 of any school year, or who are older than six (6) years of age but who have not attained the age of sixteen (16) years, to attend school regularly during the entire school term.

Parents failing to properly enroll or require their children to attend school regularly shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree punishable as provided in the law.

18 + DAYS CHRONIC ABSENCE

10-17 DAYS WARNING SIGNS

0-9 DAYS SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE

NOTE: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

TIPS FOR PARENTS...

Did you know?
- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track for graduation
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job

What You Can Do

Make school attendance a priority
- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day, make that the exception
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of stomach aches or headaches may be signs of anxiety

Help your teen stay engaged
- Find out if your child feels engaged by his/her classes and feels safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavioral issues and school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, work with your school administration
- Stay on top of academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors, if necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated
- Encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs

Communicate with the school
- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school

REASONS TO STAY IN SCHOOL

Finding Work Is Easier
- You are almost twice as likely to be unemployed if you do not finish high school

You'll Earn More
- Studies show high school graduates make 50% more than dropouts

What This Means
High school graduates are:
- Less likely to live at home
- More likely to be able to buy a car and rent an apartment
- Less likely to need welfare or public assistance

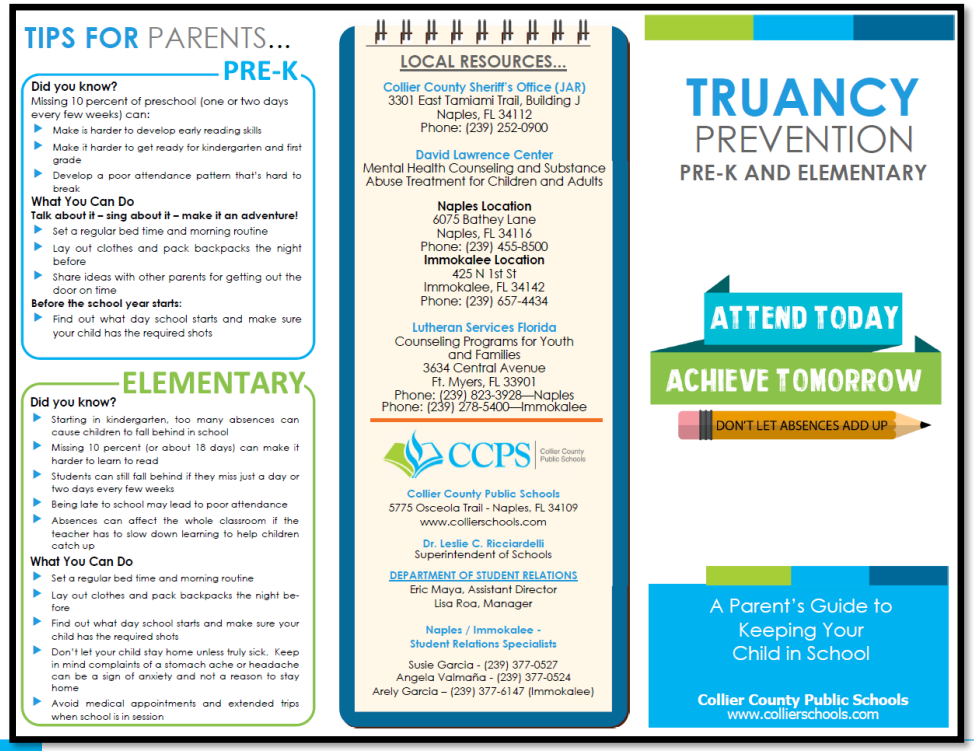
Less Likely To Be A Prison Inmate
- 75% of all prisoners are high school dropouts

Bottom Line– It's Your Future
- Your choices now will determine how well you live for the rest of your life

Consistent District-Wide Messaging

Elementary (PreK – 5) Attendance Brochures

- Provided to students and parents during MTSS attendance meetings
- FL attendance laws, tips for parents, statistics, local resources



TIPS FOR PARENTS...

PRE-K

Did you know?
Missing 10 percent of preschool (one or two days every few weeks) can:
- Make is harder to develop early reading skills
- Make it harder to get ready for kindergarten and first grade
- Develop a poor attendance pattern that's hard to break

What You Can Do
Talk about it – sing about it – make it an adventure!
- Set a regular bed time and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Share ideas with other parents for getting out the door on time

Before the school year starts:
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots

ELEMENTARY

Did you know?
- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up

What You Can Do
- Set a regular bed time and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session

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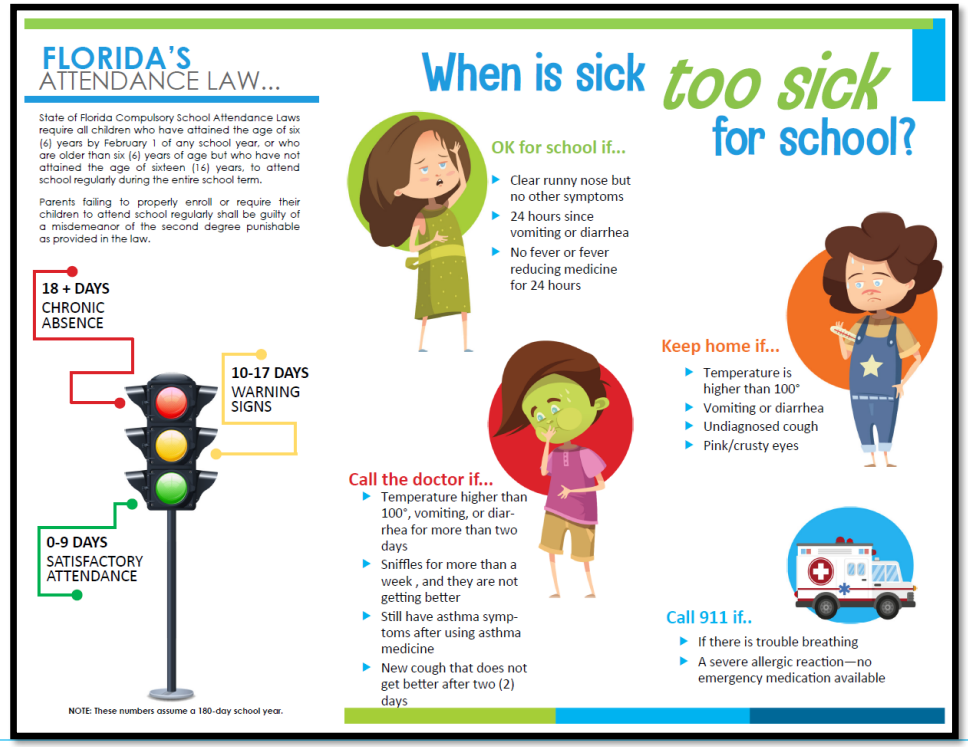

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- Pink/crusty eyes

Call the doctor if...
- Temperature higher than 100°, vomiting, or diarrhea for more than two days
- Sniffles for more than a week , and they are not getting better
- Still have asthma symptoms after using asthma medicine
- New cough that does not get better after two (2) days

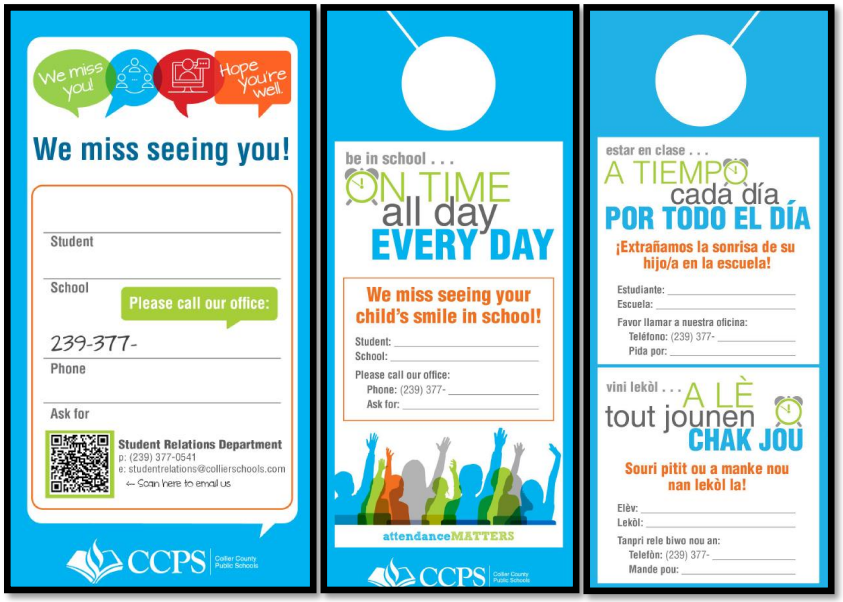
Call 911 if..
- If there is trouble breathing
- A severe allergic reaction—no emergency medication available

Consistent District-Wide Messaging

school posters

parent flyer – planning dates

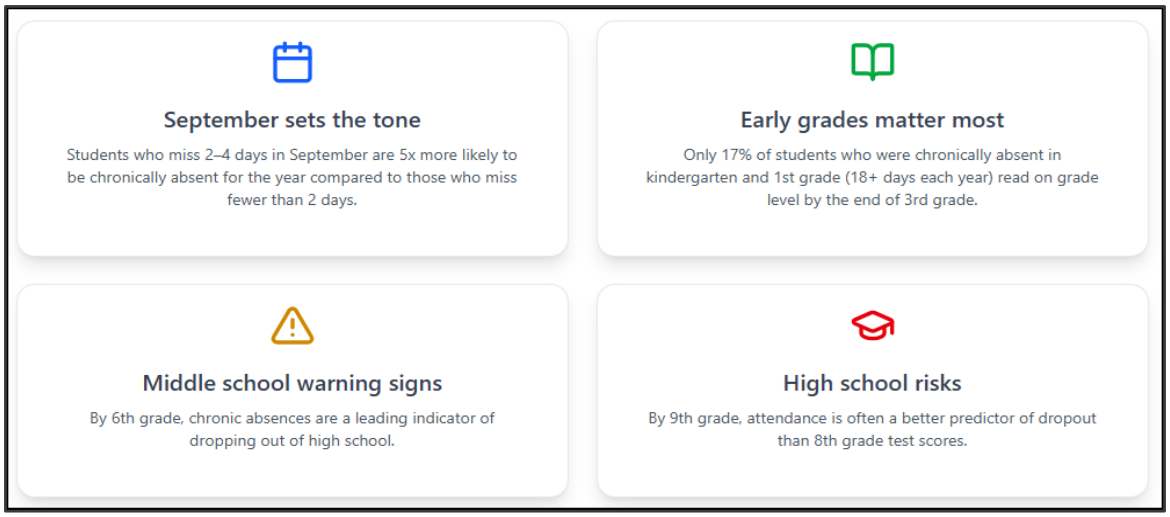
door tags used during home visits



Consistent District-Wide Messaging

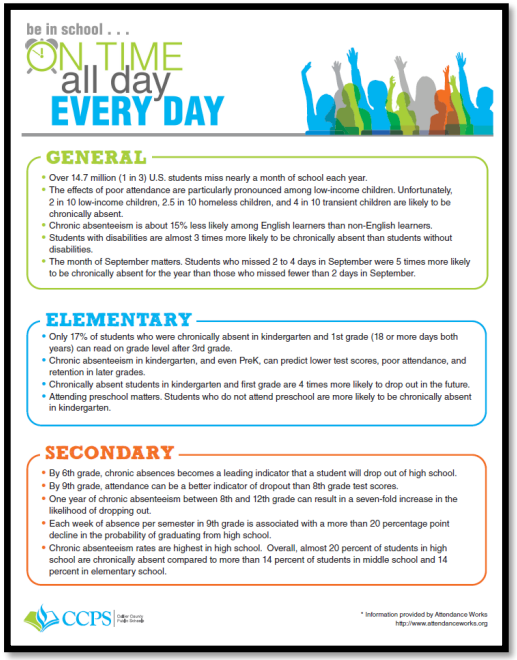
Social Media Posts for Parents

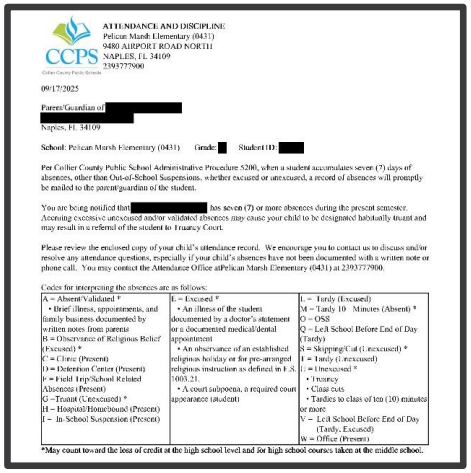
- Before school year begins
- Attendance awareness month (Sept.)
- Peak times (before/after breaks)



Consistent District-Wide Procedures

- Information for parent notices
- Automated calls for each daily absence
- Phone calls at 5 accumulated absences
- Letters mailed at 7 and 10 days of absence
    - Attendance flyer and statistics
    - Printed list of absences




ATTENDANCE AND DISCIPLINE
Pelican Marsh Elementary (0431)
9480 AIRPORT ROAD NORTH
NAPLES, FL 34109
2393777900

09/17/2025

Parent/Guardian of [redacted]
Naples, FL 34109

School: Pelican Marsh Elementary (0431) Grade: [redacted] Student ID: [redacted]

Per Collier County Public School Administrative Procedure 5200, when a student accumulates seven (7) days of absences, other than Out-of-School Suspensions, whether excused or unexcused, a record of absences will promptly be mailed to the parent/guardian of the student.

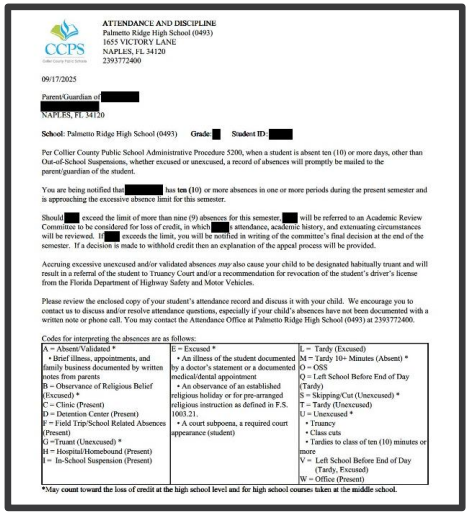
You are being notified that [redacted] has seven (7) or more absences during the present semester. Accruing excessive unexcused and/or validated absences may cause your child to be designated habitually truant and may result in a referral of the student to Truancy Court.

Please review the enclosed copy of your child's attendance record. We encourage you to contact us to discuss and/or resolve any attendance questions, especially if your child's absences have not been documented with a written note or phone call. You may contact the Attendance Office at Pelican Marsh Elementary (0431) at 2393777900.

Codes for interpreting the absences are as follows:

A = Absent/Validated * • Brief illness, appointments, and family business documented by written notes from parents B = Observance of Religious Belief (Excused) * C = Clinic (Present) D = Detention Center (Present) F = Field Trip/School Related Absences (Present) G =Truant (Unexcused) * H = Hospital/Homebound (Present) I = In-School Suspension (Present)	E = Excused * • An illness of the student documented by a doctor's statement or a documented medical/dental appointment • An observance of an established religious holiday or for pre-arranged religious instruction as defined in F.S. 1003.21. • A court subpoena, a required court appearance (student)	L = Tardy (Excused) M = Tardy 10+ Minutes (Absent) * O = OSS Q = Left School Before End of Day (Tardy) S = Skipping/Cut (Unexcused) * T = Tardy (Unexcused) U = Unexcused * • Truancy • Class cuts • Tardies to class of ten (10) minutes or more V = Left School Before End of Day (Tardy, Excused) W = Office (Present)

*May count toward the loss of credit at the high school level and for high school courses taken at the middle school.


ATTENDANCE AND DISCIPLINE
Palmetto Ridge High School (0493)
1655 VICTORY LANE
NAPLES, FL 34120
2393772400

09/17/2025

Parent/Guardian of [redacted]
NAPLES, FL 34120

School: Palmetto Ridge High School (0493) Grade: [redacted] Student ID: [redacted]

Per Collier County Public School Administrative Procedure 5200, when a student is absent ten (10) or more days, other than Out-of-School Suspensions, whether excused or unexcused, a record of absences will promptly be mailed to the parent/guardian of the student.

You are being notified that [redacted] has ten (10) or more absences in one or more periods during the present semester and is approaching the excessive absence limit for this semester.

Should [redacted] exceed the limit of more than nine (9) absences for this semester, [redacted] will be referred to an Academic Review Committee to be considered for loss of credit, in which [redacted]'s attendance, academic history, and extenuating circumstances will be reviewed. If [redacted] exceeds the limit, you will be notified in writing of the committee's final decision at the end of the semester. If a decision is made to withhold credit then an explanation of the appeal process will be provided.

Accruing excessive unexcused and/or validated absences *may* also cause your child to be designated habitually truant and will result in a referral of the student to Truancy Court and/or a recommendation for revocation of the student's driver's license from the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

Please review the enclosed copy of your student's attendance record and discuss it with your child. We encourage you to contact us to discuss and/or resolve attendance questions, especially if your child's absences have not been documented with a written note or phone call. You may contact the Attendance Office at Palmetto Ridge High School (0493) at 2393772400.

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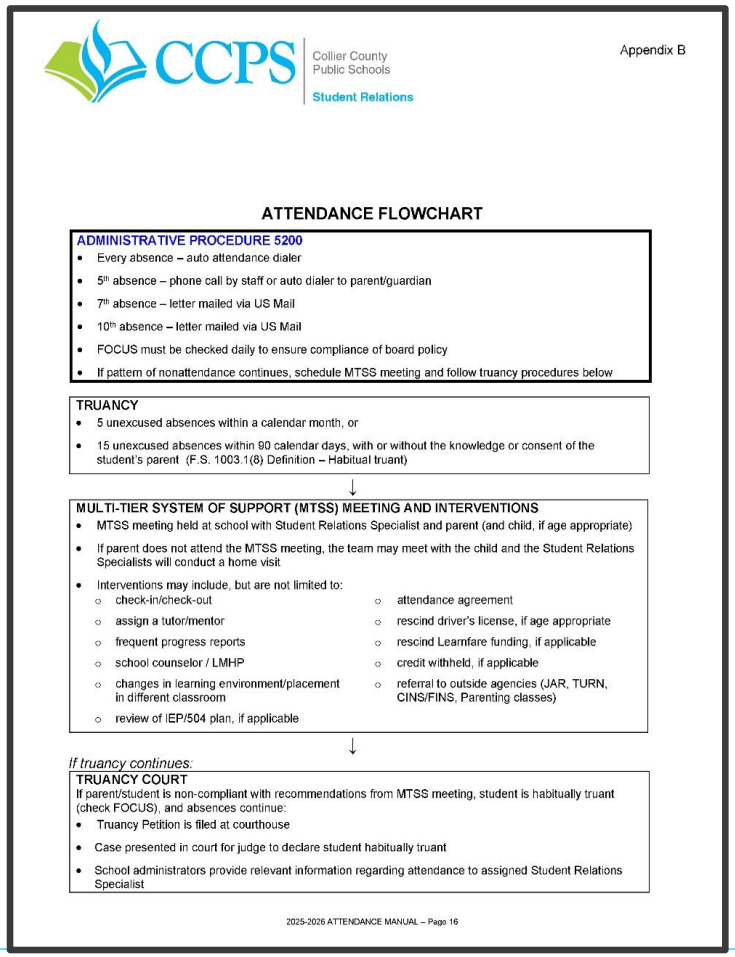
Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

- **Attendance procedures**
- **Parent notification requirements**
- **Florida Statutes**
- **MTSS interventions**
  - Check-in/out, mentors, progress reports
  - Counselor, Licensed Mental Health Provider (LMHP), IEP/504 Plan
- **Possible consequences (revoke/withhold)**
  - Driver's license/permit (ages 14+)
  - LearnFare funding (temporary cash assistance)
  - Credit withheld
- **Truancy court steps**



CCPS Collier County Public Schools
Student Relations

Appendix B

ATTENDANCE FLOWCHART

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 5200

- Every absence – auto attendance dialer
- 5th absence – phone call by staff or auto dialer to parent/guardian
- 7th absence – letter mailed via US Mail
- 10th absence – letter mailed via US Mail
- FOCUS must be checked daily to ensure compliance of board policy
- If pattern of nonattendance continues, schedule MTSS meeting and follow truancy procedures below

TRUANCY

- 5 unexcused absences within a calendar month, or
- 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days, with or without the knowledge or consent of the student's parent (F.S. 1003.1(8) Definition – Habitual truant)

↓

MULTI-TIER SYSTEM OF SUPPORT (MTSS) MEETING AND INTERVENTIONS

- MTSS meeting held at school with Student Relations Specialist and parent (and child, if age appropriate)
- If parent does not attend the MTSS meeting, the team may meet with the child and the Student Relations Specialists will conduct a home visit
- Interventions may include, but are not limited to:
  - check-in/check-out
  - assign a tutor/mentor
  - frequent progress reports
  - school counselor / LMHP
  - changes in learning environment/placement in different classroom
  - review of IEP/504 plan, if applicable
  - attendance agreement
  - rescind driver's license, if age appropriate
  - rescind Learnfare funding, if applicable
  - credit withheld, if applicable
  - referral to outside agencies (JAR, TURN, CINS/FINS, Parenting classes)

↓

If truancy continues:

TRUANCY COURT

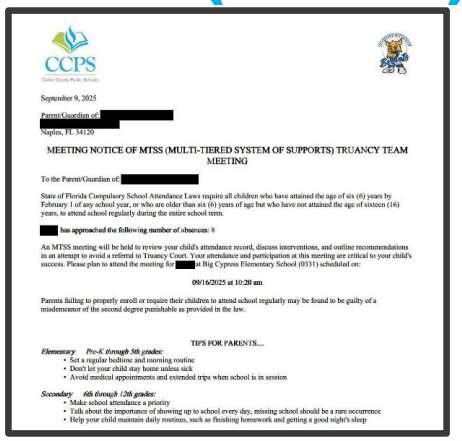
If parent/student is non-compliant with recommendations from MTSS meeting, student is habitually truant (check FOCUS), and absences continue:

- Truancy Petition is filed at courthouse
- Case presented in court for judge to declare student habitually truant
- School administrators provide relevant information regarding attendance to assigned Student Relations Specialist

2025-2026 ATTENDANCE MANUAL – Page 16

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Meetings

- Early identification of at-risk students
- Targeted family meetings to address **concerns**
- Intensive **services** for students
- Attendance **agreements**
- **Letters populated in FOCUS (SIS)**
  - Parent invite memo
  - Parent outcome memo
    - interventions and consequences
  - Attendance laws/agreements



CCPS

September 9, 2025

Parent/Guardian of: [redacted]
Naples, FL 34120

MEETING NOTICE OF MTSS (MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS) TRUANCY TEAM MEETING

To the Parent/Guardian of: [redacted]

State of Florida Compulsory School Attendance Laws require all children who have attained the age of six (6) years by February 1 of any school year, or who are older than six (6) years of age but who have not attained the age of sixteen (16) years, to attend school regularly during the entire school term.

[redacted] has approached the following number of absences: 8

An MTSS meeting will be held to review your child's attendance record, discuss interventions, and outline recommendations in an attempt to avoid a referral to Truancy Court. Your attendance and participation at this meeting are critical to your child's success. Please plan to attend the meeting for [redacted] at Big Cypress Elementary School (0331) scheduled on:

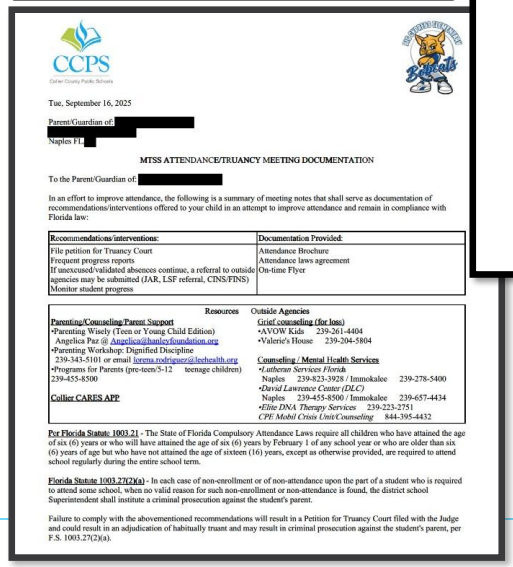
09/16/2025 at 10:20 am

Parents failing to properly enroll or require their children to attend school regularly may be found to be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree punishable as provided in the law.

TIPS FOR PARENTS...

Elementary Pre-K through 5th grades:
- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine
- Don't let your child stay home unless sick
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session

Secondary 6th through 12th grades:
- Make school attendance a priority
- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day, missing school should be a rare occurrence
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep



CCPS

Tue, September 16, 2025

Parent/Guardian of: [redacted]
Naples FL [redacted]

MTSS ATTENDANCE/TRUANCY MEETING DOCUMENTATION

To the Parent/Guardian of: [redacted]

In an effort to improve attendance, the following is a summary of meeting notes that shall serve as documentation of recommendations/interventions offered to your child in an attempt to improve attendance and remain in compliance with Florida law:

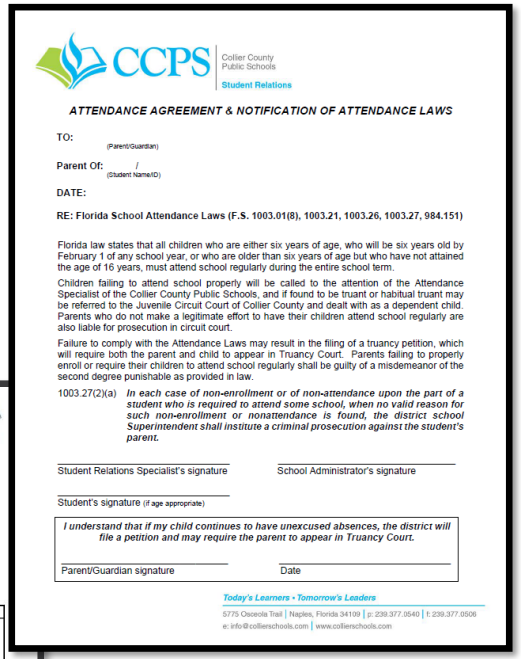
Recommendations/interventions:	Documentation Provided:
File petition for Truancy Court Frequent progress reports If unexcused/validated absences continue, a referral to outside agencies may be submitted (JAR, LSF referral, CINS/FINS) Monitor student progress	Attendance Brochure Attendance laws agreement On-time Flyer

Resources	Outside Agencies
Parenting/Counseling/Parent Support •Parenting Wisely (Teen or Young Child Edition) Angelica Paz @ Angelica@hanleyfoundation.org •Parenting Workshop: Dignified Discipline 239-343-5101 or email lorena.rodriguez@leehealth.org •Programs for Parents (pre-teen/5-12 teenage children) 239-455-8500 **Collier CARES APP**	**Grief counseling (for loss)** •AVOW Kids 239-261-4404 •Valerie's House 239-204-5804 **Counseling / Mental Health Services** •*Lutheran Services Florida* Naples 239-823-3928 / Immokalee 239-278-5400 •*David Lawrence Center (DLC)* Naples 239-455-8500 / Immokalee 239-657-4434 •*Elite DNA Therapy Services* 239-225-2751 *CPE Mobil Crisis Unit/Counseling* 844-395-4432

Per Florida Statute 1003.21 - The State of Florida Compulsory Attendance Laws require all children who have attained the age of six (6) years or who will have attained the age of six (6) years by February 1 of any school year or who are older than six (6) years of age but who have not attained the age of sixteen (16) years, except as otherwise provided, are required to attend school regularly during the entire school term.

Florida Statute 1003.27(2)(a) - In each case of non-enrollment or of non-attendance upon the part of a student who is required to attend some school, when no valid reason for such non-enrollment or non-attendance is found, the district school Superintendent shall institute a criminal prosecution against the student's parent.

Failure to comply with the abovementioned recommendations will result in a Petition for Truancy Court filed with the Judge and could result in an adjudication of habitually truant and may result in criminal prosecution against the student's parent, per F.S. 1003.27(2)(a).



CCPS Collier County Public Schools
Student Relations

ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT & NOTIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE LAWS

TO: (Parent/Guardian)

Parent Of: / (Student Name/ID)

DATE:

RE: Florida School Attendance Laws (F.S. 1003.01(8), 1003.21, 1003.26, 1003.27, 984.151)

Florida law states that all children who are either six years of age, who will be six years old by February 1 of any school year, or who are older than six years of age but who have not attained the age of 16 years, must attend school regularly during the entire school term.

Children failing to attend school properly will be called to the attention of the Attendance Specialist of the Collier County Public Schools, and if found to be truant or habitual truant may be referred to the Juvenile Circuit Court of Collier County and dealt with as a dependent child. Parents who do not make a legitimate effort to have their children attend school regularly are also liable for prosecution in circuit court.

Failure to comply with the Attendance Laws may result in the filing of a truancy petition, which will require both the parent and child to appear in Truancy Court. Parents failing to properly enroll or require their children to attend school regularly shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree punishable as provided in law.

1003.27(2)(a) ***In each case of non-enrollment or of non-attendance upon the part of a student who is required to attend some school, when no valid reason for such non-enrollment or nonattendance is found, the district school Superintendent shall institute a criminal prosecution against the student's parent.***

Student Relations Specialist's signature _____ School Administrator's signature _____

Student's signature (if age appropriate) _____

I understand that if my child continues to have unexcused absences, the district will file a petition and may require the parent to appear in Truancy Court.

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____

Today's Learners • Tomorrow's Leaders

5775 Osceola Trail | Naples, Florida 34109 | p: 239.377.0540 | f: 239.377.0506
e: info@collierschools.com | www.collierschools.com

Family Outreach and District Staff

- **CCPS conducts home visits to develop relationships and address barriers**
- Provide schools with attendance data to drive interventions
- Coordinate with school administrators and outside agencies
- Develop and implement intervention plans
- Connect families to resources
  - e.g., transportation, mental health, healthcare
- Ensure district wide compliance and documentation
- Monitor school compliance with attendance letters and board policy
- Follow-up/monitor students in Truancy Court

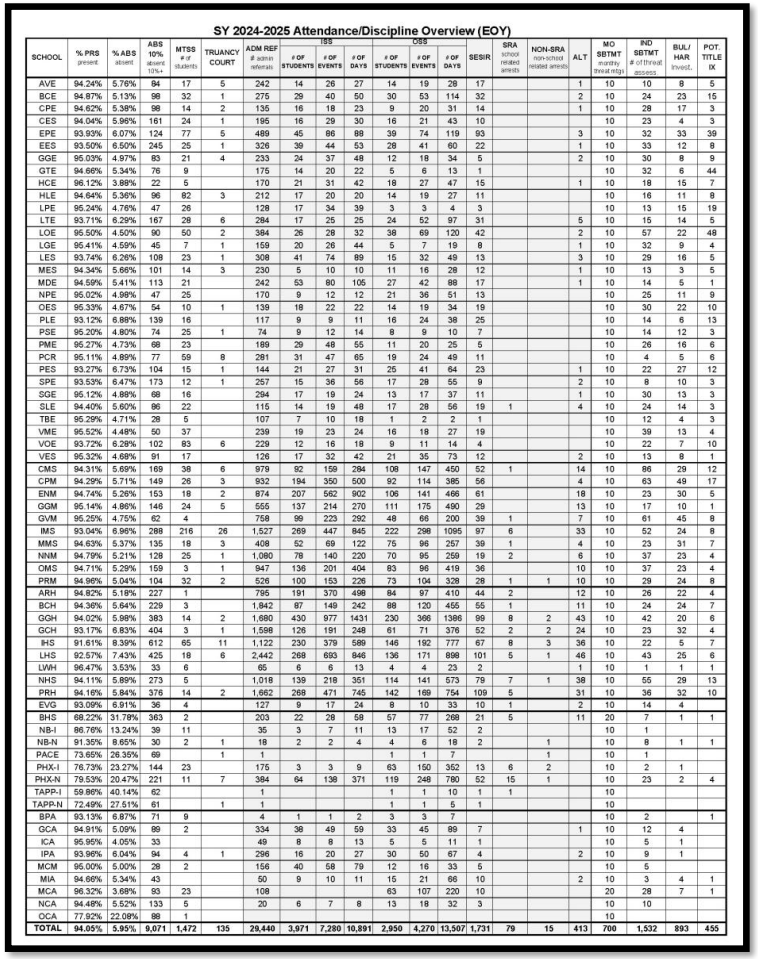
Data Driven Monitoring and Compliance

- District administrators monitor data
- Automated daily alerts/emails distributed from FOCUS (SIS)
  - Daily attendance per school
  - Overall attendance
  - ISS/OSS
  - Hope Scholarships
  - Bullying investigations
  - Threat Assessments
  - SESIR codes used
- Reports are generated for school administrators
- Regular reviews and monitoring
- Frequent meetings with the Judge

Data Driven Monitoring and Compliance

Monthly District Threat Management (DTMT)

- Includes
  - DTMT members
  - Senior leadership
  - District support staff
  - Sheriff's Office and DJJ
- Meetings analyze trends and concerns
  - Attendance (absences, truancy)
  - Discipline (referrals, ISS/OSS, SESIR)
  - Bullying investigations, Potential Title IX
  - Threat assessments
  - Arrests and Alternative Placements



SY 2024-2025 Attendance/Discipline Overview (EOY)

SCHOOL	% PRS present	% ABS absent	ABS 10% absent 10%+	MTSS # of students	TRUANCY COURT	ADM REF # admin referrals	ISS # OF STUDENTS	ISS # OF EVENTS	ISS # OF DAYS	OSS # OF STUDENTS	OSS # OF EVENTS	OSS # OF DAYS	SESIR	SRA school related arrests	NON-SRA non-school related arrests	ALT	MO SBTMT monthly threat mtgs	IND SBTMT # of threat assess	BUL/ HAR threat.	POT. TITLE IX
AVE	94.24%	5.76%	84	17	5	242	14	26	27	14	19	28	17			1	10	10	8	5
BCE	94.87%	5.13%	98	32	1	275	29	40	50	30	53	114	32			2	10	24	23	15
CPE	94.62%	5.38%	98	14	2	135	16	18	23	9	20	31	14			1	10	28	17	3
CES	94.04%	5.96%	161	24	1	195	16	29	30	16	21	43	10				10	23	4	3
EPE	93.93%	6.07%	124	77	5	489	45	86	88	39	74	119	93			3	10	32	33	39
EES	93.50%	6.50%	245	25	1	326	39	44	53	28	41	60	22			1	10	33	12	8
GGE	95.03%	4.97%	83	21	4	233	24	37	48	12	18	34	5			2	10	30	8	9
GTE	94.66%	5.34%	76	9		175	14	20	22	5	6	13	1				10	32	6	44
HCE	96.12%	3.88%	22	5		170	21	31	42	18	27	47	15			1	10	18	15	7
HLE	94.64%	5.36%	96	82	3	212	17	20	20	14	19	27	11				10	16	11	8
LPE	95.24%	4.76%	47	26		128	17	34	39	3	3	4	3				10	13	15	19
LTE	93.71%	6.29%	167	28	6	284	17	25	25	24	52	97	31			5	10	15	14	5
LOE	95.50%	4.50%	90	50	2	384	26	28	32	38	69	120	42			2	10	57	22	48
LGE	95.41%	4.59%	45	7	1	159	20	26	44	5	7	19	8			1	10	32	9	4
LES	93.74%	6.26%	108	23	1	308	41	74	89	15	32	49	13			3	10	29	16	5
MES	94.34%	5.66%	101	14	3	230	5	10	10	11	16	28	12			1	10	13	3	5
MDE	94.59%	5.41%	113	21		242	53	80	105	27	42	88	17			1	10	14	5	1
NPE	95.02%	4.98%	47	25		170	9	12	12	21	36	51	13				10	25	11	9
OES	95.33%	4.67%	54	10	1	139	18	22	22	14	19	34	19				10	30	22	10
PLE	93.12%	6.88%	139	16		117	9	9	11	16	24	38	25				10	14	6	13
PSE	95.20%	4.80%	74	25	1	74	9	12	14	8	9	10	7				10	14	12	3
PME	95.27%	4.73%	68	23		189	29	48	55	11	20	25	5				10	26	16	6
PCR	95.11%	4.89%	77	59	8	281	31	47	65	19	24	49	11				10	4	5	6
PES	93.27%	6.73%	104	15	1	144	21	27	31	25	41	64	23			1	10	22	27	12
SPE	93.53%	6.47%	173	12	1	257	15	36	56	17	28	55	9			2	10	8	10	3
SGE	95.12%	4.88%	68	16		294	17	19	24	13	17	37	11			1	10	30	13	3
SLE	94.40%	5.60%	96	22		115	14	19	48	17	28	56	19	1		4	10	24	14	3
TBE	95.29%	4.71%	28	5		107	7	10	18	1	2	2	1				10	12	4	3
VME	95.52%	4.48%	50	37		239	19	23	24	16	18	27	19				10	39	13	4
VOE	93.72%	6.28%	102	83	6	229	12	16	18	9	11	14	4				10	22	7	10
VES	95.32%	4.68%	91	17		126	17	32	42	21	35	73	12			2	10	13	8	1
CMS	94.31%	5.69%	169	38	6	979	92	159	284	108	147	450	52	1		14	10	86	29	12
CPM	94.29%	5.71%	149	26	3	932	194	350	500	92	114	385	56			4	10	63	49	17
ENM	94.74%	5.26%	153	18	2	874	207	562	902	106	141	466	61			18	10	23	30	5
GGM	95.14%	4.86%	146	24	5	565	137	214	270	111	175	490	29			13	10	17	10	1
GVM	95.25%	4.75%	62	4		758	99	223	292	48	66	200	39	1		7	10	61	45	9
IMS	93.04%	6.96%	288	216	26	1,527	269	447	845	222	298	1095	97	6		33	10	52	24	8
MMS	94.63%	5.37%	135	18	3	408	52	69	122	75	96	257	39	1		4	10	23	31	7
NNM	94.79%	5.21%	128	25	1	1,080	78	140	220	70	95	259	19	2		6	10	37	23	4
OMS	94.71%	5.29%	159	3	1	947	136	201	404	83	96	419	36			10	10	37	23	4
PRM	94.96%	5.04%	104	32	2	526	100	153	226	73	104	328	28	1	1	10	10	29	24	8
ARH	94.82%	5.18%	227	1		795	191	370	498	84	97	410	44	2		12	10	26	22	4
BCH	94.36%	5.64%	229	3		1,842	87	149	242	88	120	455	55	1		11	10	24	24	7
GGH	94.02%	5.98%	383	14	2	1,680	430	977	1431	230	366	1386	99	8	2	43	10	42	20	6
GCH	93.17%	6.83%	404	3	1	1,598	126	191	248	61	71	376	52	2	2	24	10	23	32	4
IHS	91.61%	8.39%	612	65	11	1,122	230	379	589	146	192	777	67	8	3	36	10	22	5	7
LHS	92.57%	7.43%	425	18	6	2,442	269	693	846	136	171	898	101	5	1	46	10	43	25	6
LWH	96.47%	3.53%	33	6		65	6	6	13	4	4	23	2			1	10	1	1	1
NHS	94.11%	5.89%	273	5		1,018	139	218	351	114	141	573	79	7	1	38	10	55	29	13
PRH	94.16%	5.84%	376	14	2	1,662	268	471	745	142	169	754	109	5		31	10	36	32	10
EVG	93.09%	6.91%	36	4		127	9	17	24	8	10	33	10	1		2	10	14	4	
BHS	68.22%	31.78%	363	2		203	22	28	58	57	77	268	21	5		11	20	7	1	1
NB-I	86.76%	13.24%	39	11		35	3	7	11	13	17	52	2				10	1		
NB-N	91.35%	8.65%	30	2	1	18	2	2	4	4	6	18	2		1		10	8	1	1
PACE	73.65%	26.35%	69		1	1				1	1	7			1		10	1		
PHX-I	76.73%	23.27%	144	23		175	3	3	9	63	150	352	13	6	2		10	2	1	
PHX-N	79.53%	20.47%	221	11	7	384	64	138	371	119	248	780	52	15	1		10	23	2	4
TAPP-I	59.86%	40.14%	62			1				1	1	10	1	1			10			
TAPP-N	72.49%	27.51%	61		1	1				1	1	5	1				10			
BPA	93.13%	6.87%	71	9		4	1	1	2	3	3	7					10	2		1
GCA	94.91%	5.09%	89	2		334	38	49	59	33	45	89	7			1	10	12	4	
ICA	95.95%	4.05%	33			49	8	8	13	5	5	11	1				10	5	1	
IPA	93.96%	6.04%	94	4	1	296	16	20	27	30	50	67	4			2	10	9	1	
MCM	95.00%	5.00%	28	2		156	40	58	79	12	16	33	5				10	5		
MIA	94.66%	5.34%	43			50	9	10	11	15	21	66	10			2	10	3	4	1
MCA	96.32%	3.68%	93	23		108				63	107	220	10				20	28	7	1
NCA	94.48%	5.52%	133	5		20	6	7	8	13	18	32	3				10	10		
OCA	77.92%	22.08%	88	1													10			
TOTAL	94.05%	5.95%	9,071	1,472	135	29,440	3,971	7,280	10,891	2,950	4,270	13,507	1,731	79	15	413	700	1,532	893	455

Training and Professional Development

Professional Development Resources for Administrators

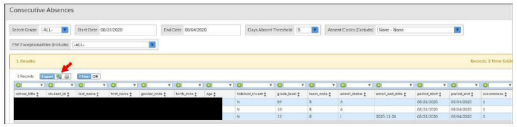
- Comprehensive attendance manual outlines policies, procedures, deadlines, and sample documents
- Targeted training sessions at each monthly administrator meetings

STUDENT RELATIONS

CONSECUTIVE ABSENCES REPORT

Reports > District Reports > Attendance > Consecutive Absences or use this link (bookmark it):
Consecutive Absences Report

- Display students with consecutive absences
- Monitor students with consecutive absences to ensure interventions are implemented
- Monitor during FTE windows to maximize student attendance
- Select:
  - Grade level – default to 'all'
  - Start date – select start date from calendar
  - End date – select end date from calendar
  - Select days absent threshold
  - Select absent codes to exclude – default to 'none'
  - ESE Exceptionalities – default to 'all'
  - Click 'run'
- Export to Excel option is available



FTE WINDOW – ATTENDANCE

- **Window: September 26 – October 10 (Fall)**
- **Window: January 23 – February 6 (Spring)**
  - Students must be in attendance at least 1 day during the window
  - Be cognizant when assigning 10 days OSS during the FTE window, ensure at least 1 day is ISS
  - Run consecutive absence report **daily** (see above) during the FTE window
    - Don't wait until FTE to start running the report
  - Ensure staff call parents by day 2 – continue with phone calls each day during the window
  - **Reminder** – Please ensure teachers submit attendance and continuously address the need for timely and accurate attendance taking with teachers before and during FTE
    - Reports are only accurate if teacher attendance is submitted

LUTHERAN SERVICES (LSF)

- Provide families the support they may need while also attempting to correct attendance concerns
- For students ages 6-17, submit a counseling referral when a student has at least 5 absences and any of the following:
  - Student is struggling with complicated conflicts at home or at school
  - The family is in crisis over distressing situations
  - The student exhibits truancy or is ungovernable and/or a runaway
- Counseling provided by Lutheran Services can be individual and/or family counseling
- Typically suggested for families with low income or lack of resources, and for families seeking a preventative style approach
- Not to be confused with a T.U.R.N. case staffing meeting or a CINS/FINS petition for Truancy Court
- This is a preventative approach
- Goal is to provide services to families much sooner than past practice
- Contact assigned attendance specialist or Student Relations with any questions

LSF:

- Receive LSF referral
- Assign referral to a counselor and counselor schedules an 'intake'
- If student/parent are unsuccessful, a case staffing (TURN) meeting is scheduled
- At the case staffing (TURN), the committee can decide if a CINS/FINS petition for truancy court should be filed

CCPS: Student Relations Specialists or any school administrators can file a LSF referral

- Student Relations specialists will file LSF referrals due to attendance
- School administrators can file LSF referrals due to services needed (ungovernable students)

TRUANCY COURT

- If parent/student is non-compliant with interventions/recommendations provided during the MTSS meeting and absences have continued, a Truancy Petition is filed at the courthouse
- Case presented in court for judge to declare student habitually truant
- Once students are active in Truancy Court, attendance meetings are no longer required by the school
- Once students are active in Truancy Court, Student Relations Specialists will continue to monitor attendance and communicate via phone or email with school administrators in order to report school related information back to Truancy Court

PROCEDURES FOR ABSENTEEISM (Appendix B)

A student is considered habitual truant when a child (age 6-16) has fifteen (15) unexcused absences within ninety (90) calendar days, with or without knowledge of justifiable consent of parent/guardian. (F.S. 984.03)

Student Relations Specialists work collaboratively with the schools to decrease absenteeism. For students who begin to accumulate absences, schools will adhere to the following:

- Communication
  - Auto phone dialer for every absence
  - 5th absence phone call by staff or auto dialer to parent/guardian
  - 7th and 10th absences – letter mailed via US Mail

Should attendance not improve, adhere to MTSS process:

- Discuss potential issues/concerns for the absences
- Provide interventions/recommendations for support (counseling/LMHP, parenting classes, referral to outside agencies)
- Document attendance meeting in FOCUS under the Attendance Review tab

Should attendance continue to not improve and student is habitually truant under F.S. 984.03:

- Truancy Court
  - A petition will be filed by the district
  - A court hearing in front of judge
  - Adjudication of habitual truant

MTSS ATTENDANCE MEETINGS (*To be conducted by Student Relations Specialists*)

PURPOSE OF *ATTENDANCE MEETINGS*

- To provide information to parents regarding attendance state laws and District policies and procedures in order to circumvent further truancy proceedings
- Review and obtain parent/guardian and student signatures on an Attendance Agreement

MTSS ATTENDANCE MEETING PROCESS

- Occur at the request of the school with school administrators, counselors and parents/guardians present
- Student Relations Specialists provide monthly attendance reports to school administration
- Student Relations Specialists are to meet with students only during scheduled initial attendance meetings
- Students *may* be pulled out of class during attendance meetings under the direction of the school administrator
- Schedule attendance meetings no more than once a month per school, *if needed*
- TURN Referral Forms may be submitted when the school administration is in agreement that the student/family may benefit from additional services
- Student Relations will submit TURN referral forms if needed

Embracing Community Collaboration

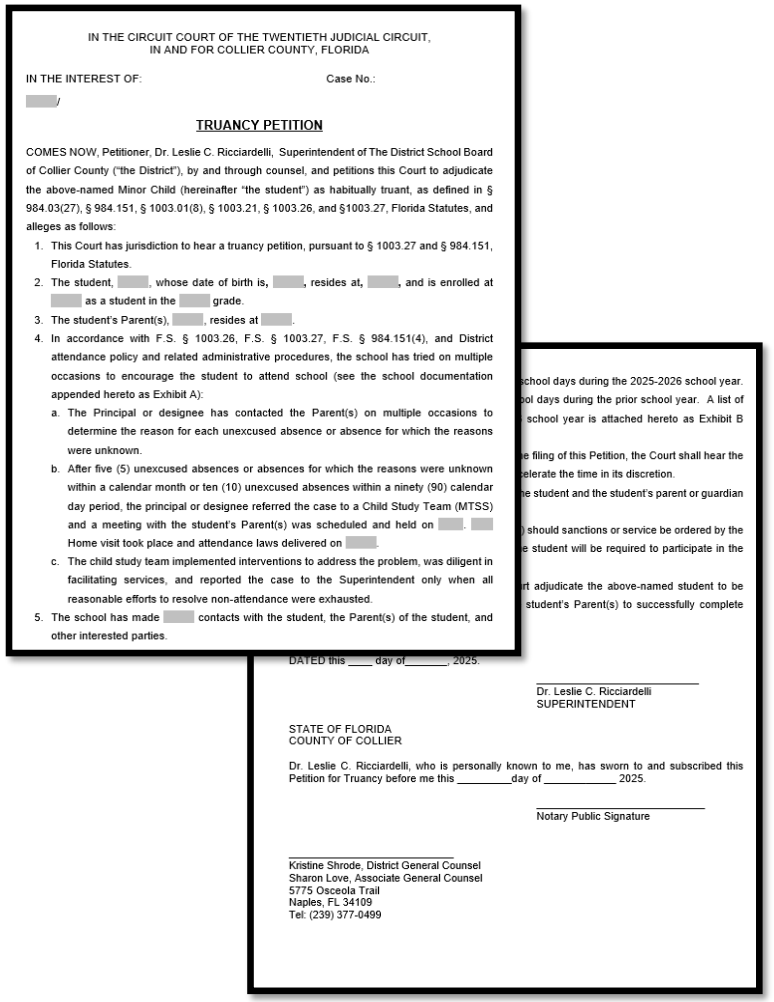
Local Agencies and Support

- Partnerships with local organizations to address external challenges
- Includes delinquency prevention, mental health, and healthcare

Utilizing Truancy Court

Truancy Court is the Last Resort

- Strong partnership and regular meetings
- Circuit 20: One Judge presides over Truancy Court, Delinquency, and Dependency (consistency)
- Court establishes legally binding attendance improvement plans
- Emphasis remains on support, with resource linkage for families
  - e.g., parenting classes, mental health, and healthcare
- School administration ensures implementation of interventions



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN THE INTEREST OF: Case No.:

/

TRUANCY PETITION

COMES NOW, Petitioner, Dr. Leslie C. Ricciardelli, Superintendent of The District School Board of Collier County ("the District"), by and through counsel, and petitions this Court to adjudicate the above-named Minor Child (hereinafter "the student") as habitually truant, as defined in § 984.03(27), § 984.151, § 1003.01(8), § 1003.21, § 1003.26, and §1003.27, Florida Statutes, and alleges as follows:

1. This Court has jurisdiction to hear a truancy petition, pursuant to § 1003.27 and § 984.151, Florida Statutes.
2. The student, , whose date of birth is, , resides at, , and is enrolled at as a student in the grade.
3. The student's Parent(s), , resides at .
4. In accordance with F.S. § 1003.26, F.S. § 1003.27, F.S. § 984.151(4), and District attendance policy and related administrative procedures, the school has tried on multiple occasions to encourage the student to attend school (see the school documentation appended hereto as Exhibit A):
   a. The Principal or designee has contacted the Parent(s) on multiple occasions to determine the reason for each unexcused absence or absence for which the reasons were unknown.
   b. After five (5) unexcused absences or absences for which the reasons were unknown within a calendar month or ten (10) unexcused absences within a ninety (90) calendar day period, the principal or designee referred the case to a Child Study Team (MTSS) and a meeting with the student's Parent(s) was scheduled and held on . Home visit took place and attendance laws delivered on .
   c. The child study team implemented interventions to address the problem, was diligent in facilitating services, and reported the case to the Superintendent only when all reasonable efforts to resolve non-attendance were exhausted.
5. The school has made contacts with the student, the Parent(s) of the student, and other interested parties.

school days during the 2025-2026 school year.
ol days during the prior school year. A list of
school year is attached hereto as Exhibit B

e filing of this Petition, the Court shall hear the
elerate the time in its discretion.
he student and the student's parent or guardian

should sanctions or service be ordered by the
e student will be required to participate in the

rt adjudicate the above-named student to be
student's Parent(s) to successfully complete

DATED this ____ day of_____, 2025.

Dr. Leslie C. Ricciardelli
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF COLLIER

Dr. Leslie C. Ricciardelli, who is personally known to me, has sworn to and subscribed this Petition for Truancy before me this _____day of _____ 2025.

Notary Public Signature

Kristine Shrode, District General Counsel
Sharon Love, Associate General Counsel
5775 Osceola Trail
Naples, FL 34109
Tel: (239) 377-0499

Considerations for Process Changes

- Increase funding resources for school districts to better support prevention, intervention, and student services
- Create a direct filing pathway for Judges to submit CINS-FINS (Children/Families in Need of Services) petitions, to:
  - Reduce reliance on intermediary steps (DCF and DJJ)
  - Shorten the overall processing timeline for Lutheran Services
- Enable courts to reserve involvement for the most severe cases, easing caseloads and improving efficiency
- Expand judicial authority by providing judges with more sanction options, allowing for more effective and timely interventions

CCPS

COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Systems that Stick: Driving Attendance and Academic Achievement in Collier County

Dr. Leslie Ricciardelli
Superintendent