2021 District Attendance Campaign School Social Work Department

Rationale: Keeping students engaged in their education is a vital tenet of the whole-child approach. Students who are engaged and connected to their schools demonstrate increased attendance percentages. The **monthly attendance themes** will assist in the effort to cultivate a school-wide culture and climate for attendance.

August

THEME: COUNT US IN

All School Levels:

- Start building a culture and climate for positive attendance by talking about it. Say something positive about attendance in your school marquee, include it in your welcome back letter, the school's newsletter, etc.
- Form the school's attendance teams or include
- Include attendance in the school's CARE team
- Determine school-wide incentives for students, teachers and/or parents
- Start building the excitement for attendance via morning and afternoon announcements
- Acknowledge the students who have perfect attendance each week or for the month
- Create an attendance board for the school to promote monthly themes or to recognize students with perfect or good attendance



*September

THEME: REBOUND WITH ATTENDANCE

All School Levels:

- Encourage all students to participate in the poster contest by way of drawing a picture or creating a graphic design. Make sure all schools know that the school social worker will be receiving submissions (When?, Where?, How?)
- Create a class mural using the theme
- Create a TikTok video challenge using the theme
- Advertise possible ways to get an incentive for the month (perfect classroom attendance, perfect student attendance, most improved attendance, best grade level attendance)
- Share possible types of incentives (certificates, gift cards, popsicles, lollipops, pencils stickers, AttenDance, movie day, school store bucks, lunch with the principal, etc.)
- When sharing on social media use the following hashtags: #APSCountUsIn, #APSUpdate, #APS_Socialworkers, #APS_TruancyPrevention #APS_SWPAIS



October THEME: FALL INTO SCHOOL

 Elementary Schools: Give each teacher a calendar template with leaves for each student to get signed or stamped daily. Students can be given incentives for perfect attendance each week and/or for the entire month. (See sample pic)



Middle and High Schools: Create an attendance board with a tree representing each grade level. Each day the grade level with the highest attendance percentage will get a leaf added with the percentage on it. By the end of the month, the grade level with the most leaves will be the winner. Grade level incentives can be an AttenDance, one free homework pass, a five dollar school buck for the school store, or whatever the school deems as an appropriate incentive. (See sample pic)



November

THEME: EVERY DAY I'M THANKFUL

- Elementary Schools: Students in grades Pre-k 1st can use a placemat template or coloring sheet write down 1-3 things they are thankful for at school.
- Elementary Schools: Students in grades 2nd 5th can write their top 10 reasons why they are thankful for school. The teacher can choose one student's list to be shared on the announcements.





• *Middle and High School:* Students can write a school memory that makes them feel thankful.

All grade level memories can be shared via morning announcements, the school's newsletter and/or featured on the school's website.



December THEME: YOUR PRESENCE IS A GIFT

Elementary Schools: Give each teacher a calendar template with gift boxes for each student to get signed or stamped daily. Students can be given incentives for perfect attendance each week and/or for the entire month. (See sample pic)



Middle and High Schools: Create an attendance board with a Holiday tree representing each grade level. Each day the grade level with the highest attendance percentage will get a gift box added with the percentage on it. By the end of the month, the grade level with the most gift boxes will be the winner. Grade level incentives can be an AttenDance, one free homework pass, a five dollar school buck for the school store, or whatever the school deems as an appropriate incentive. (See sample pic)



January THEME: WE'RE IN THE WRITE PLACE

Elementary Schools:

- Invite parents to write an encouraging note to their child's class about the importance of attending school. All
 grade level teachers will collect the notes and submit to the attendance committees. Notes can be shared for
 inspiration on the morning announcements, school newsletter, and/or features the school's website.
- All parents that submit a note will be entered into a drawing to win a prize. (Sample incentives include: gas card, grocery gift card, movie tickets, restaurant tickets, etc.)

Middle and High Schools:

Students can use their creative skills to write a poem or rap verse/bar about attendance. Schools would
determine how students would submit their work, how it would be judged, and the selected prizes.





February THEME: WE LOVE SCHOOL

All School Levels:

If you love school, let me see you CUPID SHUFFLE! The Cupid Attendance Shuffle Challenge will probably require staff to be the first to initiate. For example, four social workers would do a portion of the shuffle, then shout out "WE LOVE SCHOOL"!! Then they would challenge another staff member or grade level in their school to do it too. The idea is for the LOVE of school to go viral. Be as creative as you school would allow.



March

THEME: MARCH MADNESS...SHOOT FOR SUCCESS

Elementary Schools:

- Create a March Madness basketball theme bulletin board
- Start a classroom room door decorating contest for each grade level
- Teachers with the highest attendance percentage can be entered into a drawing to win a prize.

Middle and High Schools:

- Each homeroom would choose a team name (College Basketball, NBA, or WNBA)
- There will be 4 rounds and each round will last one week
- Attendance will reset at the beginning of the next round to play
- The homeroom with a 95% attendance for the week will advance to the next round
- The disqualified homerooms can be re-entered after a full week and they have 95%
- The H.R. that advances through all four rounds wins 1st prize
- The H.R. that makes a comeback after being disqualified once, wins 2nd prize





- Create a Spring theme bulletin board
- Each class or homeroom will be provided a flower template with letters that spell the words PERFECT ATTENDANCE. The first day a class reaches perfect attendance, they would place the first letter of the word on the outer classroom door and continue to do so until they have spelled the word.



May THEME: STAY ON TARGET

All School Levels:

- Create a target/bullseye theme bulletin board It's the end of the year and you don't want the school's attendance to drop. This is the time to talk about the upcoming chances to win prizes.
- Create a perfect attendance award for students who were not absent all school year (trophy, certificate, gift cards and/or other prizes).
- Create daily chances to win small gifts from a treasure chest or school store for showing up for school.
- Celebrate classrooms/homerooms that have the highest attendance percentages for the year (ice cream party pizza party, movie day, field day).

