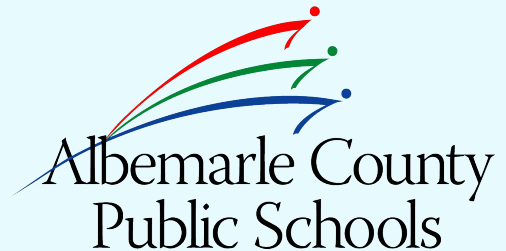


Building Proactive, Data-driven Attendance Systems

Presented to ACPS School Board: August 13th, 2026

Prepared by:
Russell Carlock



Agenda

- ❑ Changes in 2025-2026
- ❑ Data Review
- ❑ Multi-Tiered Support
- ❑ Going Forward:
Proactive, data-driven
systems
- ❑ Questions





Changes in 2025-2026

ACPS Attendance

Changes in 2025-2026

- Revised **administrative procedures**.
- Created a **division attendance team** that provided data-based support to schools.
- Adopted a **tiered support structure** in **partnership** with **community** agencies (e.g. Region Ten, and Family Support).
- Improved systems to connect schools to the **Attendance Multidisciplinary Team** that included DSS, Region Ten, Cville DHS, and Court Services.
- Created **resources for families** to better understand Attendance Procedures.





Definitions

ACPS Attendance

Terminology:

- **Qualified Chronic Absentee Rate** - Includes only students enrolled 50% or more of the school year.
- **Flexible Learning Time** - Out-of-school learning used to “buy back” missed school days.



Chronic Absenteeism

"... is defined as missing 10% or more of the school year for any reason. Truancy deals only with unexcused absences accrued by a student. While there is a strong relationship between these two terms, it is important to distinguish them to ensure all students get support for attendance needs. The ACPS approach is designed to support all students who have attendance challenges, no matter the reason for those absences" ([ACPS Attendance Handbook](#)).



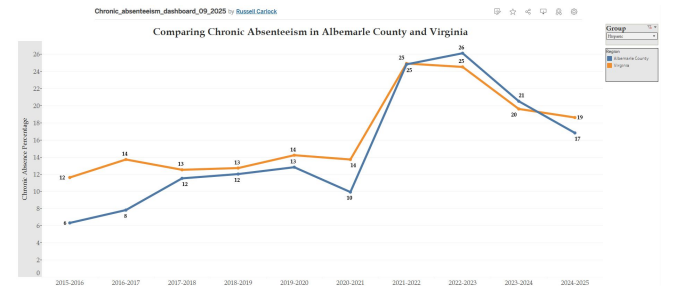
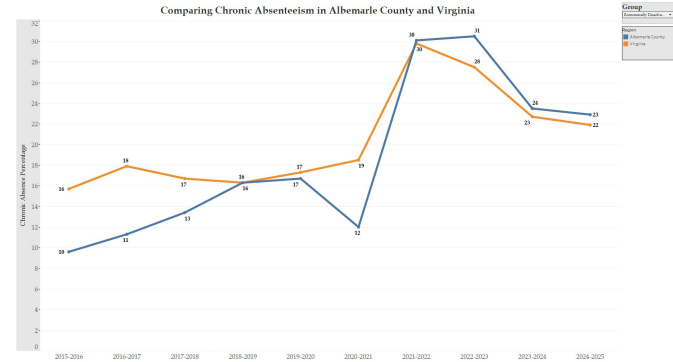


Data Review

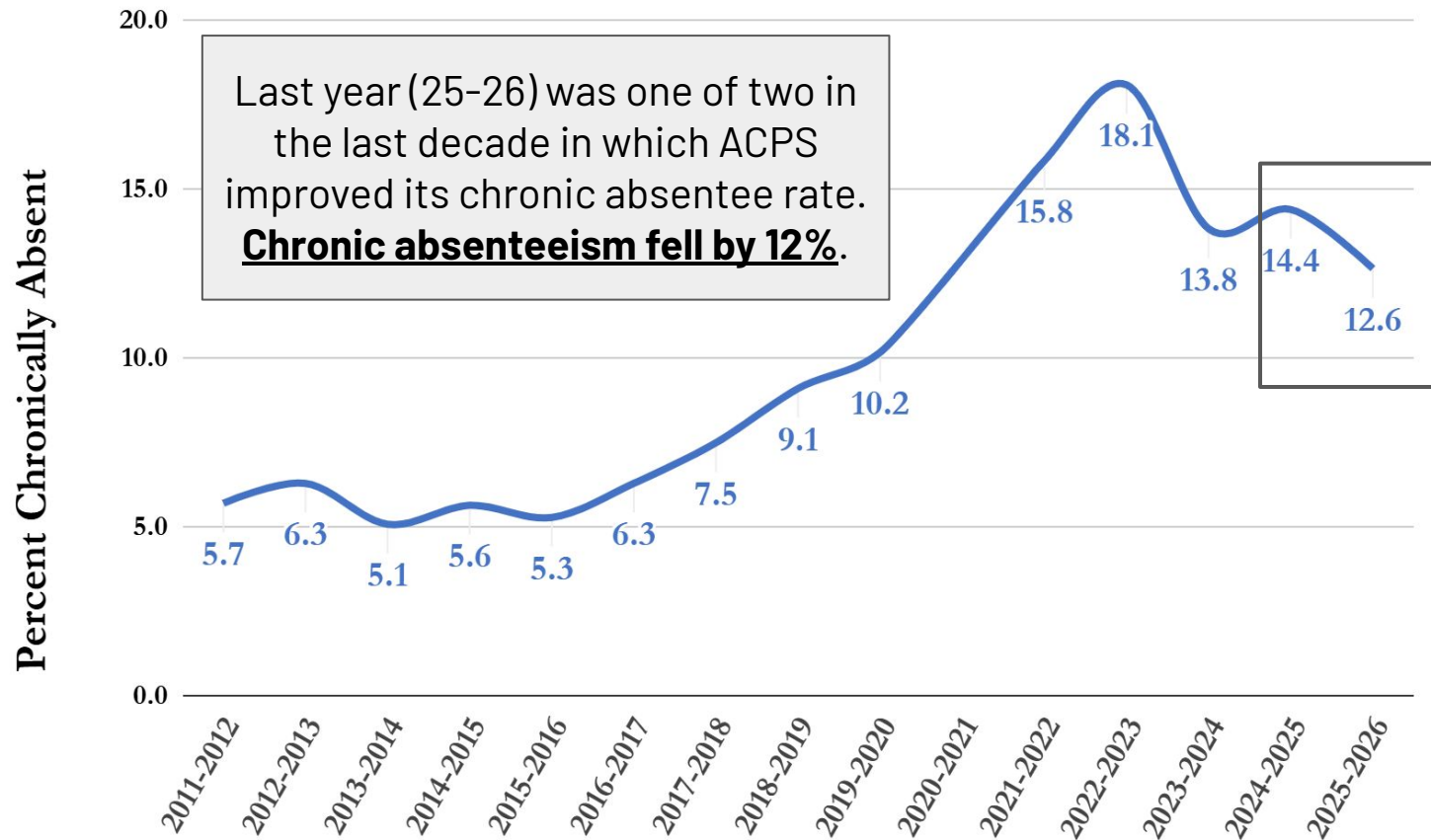
ACPS Attendance

Historical Chronic Absenteeism Dashboard:

- The Office of Community Partnerships created a [dashboard](#) comparing **Virginia chronic absentee rates to those in Albemarle County** for all membership groups tracked by the state.
- This data stems from the **data sets available on VDOE's public website**.
- School board members may use the dashboard to **analyze each group's data** compared to the same group at the state level.
- This data is the **VDOE's qualified rate** that includes only students enrolled 50% or more of the year and flexible learning time.

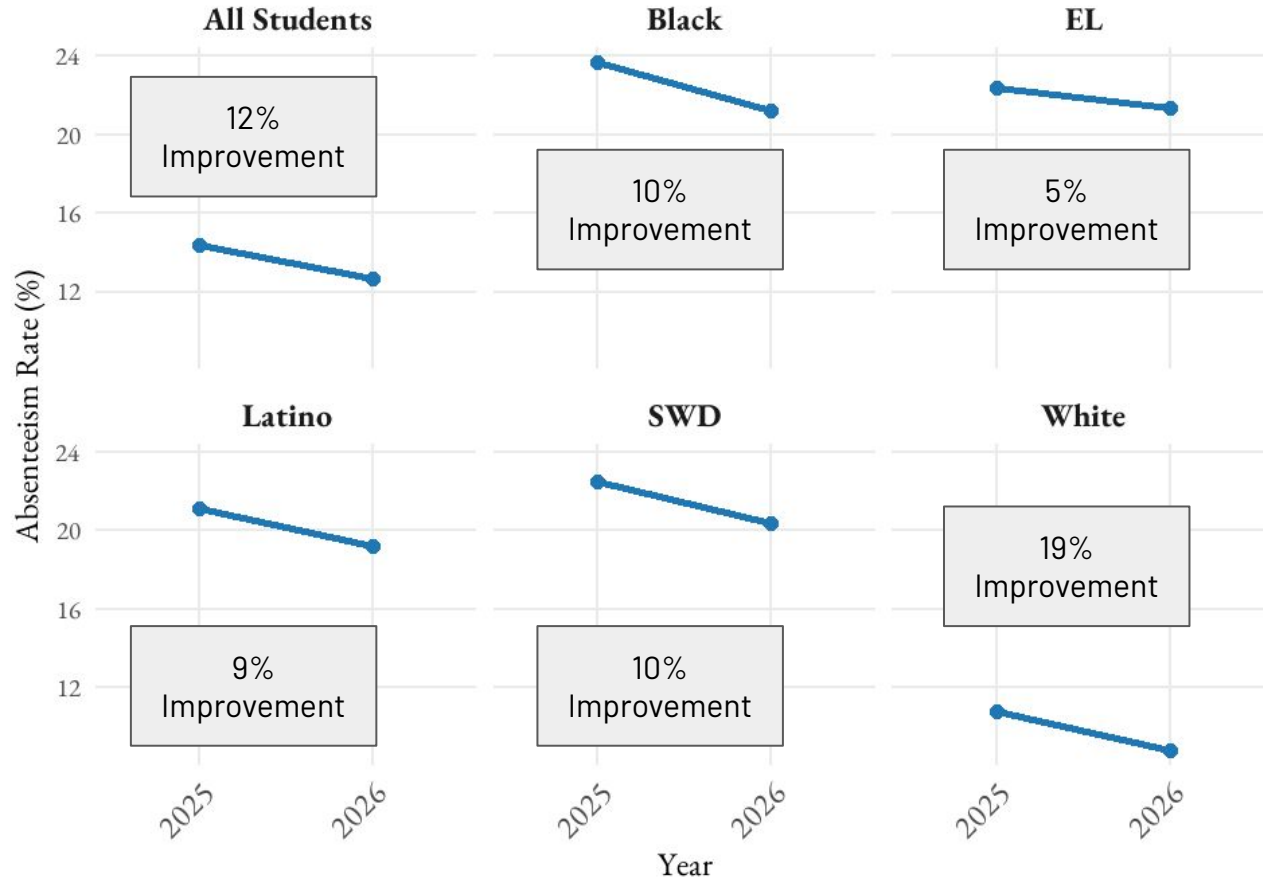


ACPS Chronic Absentee Rates



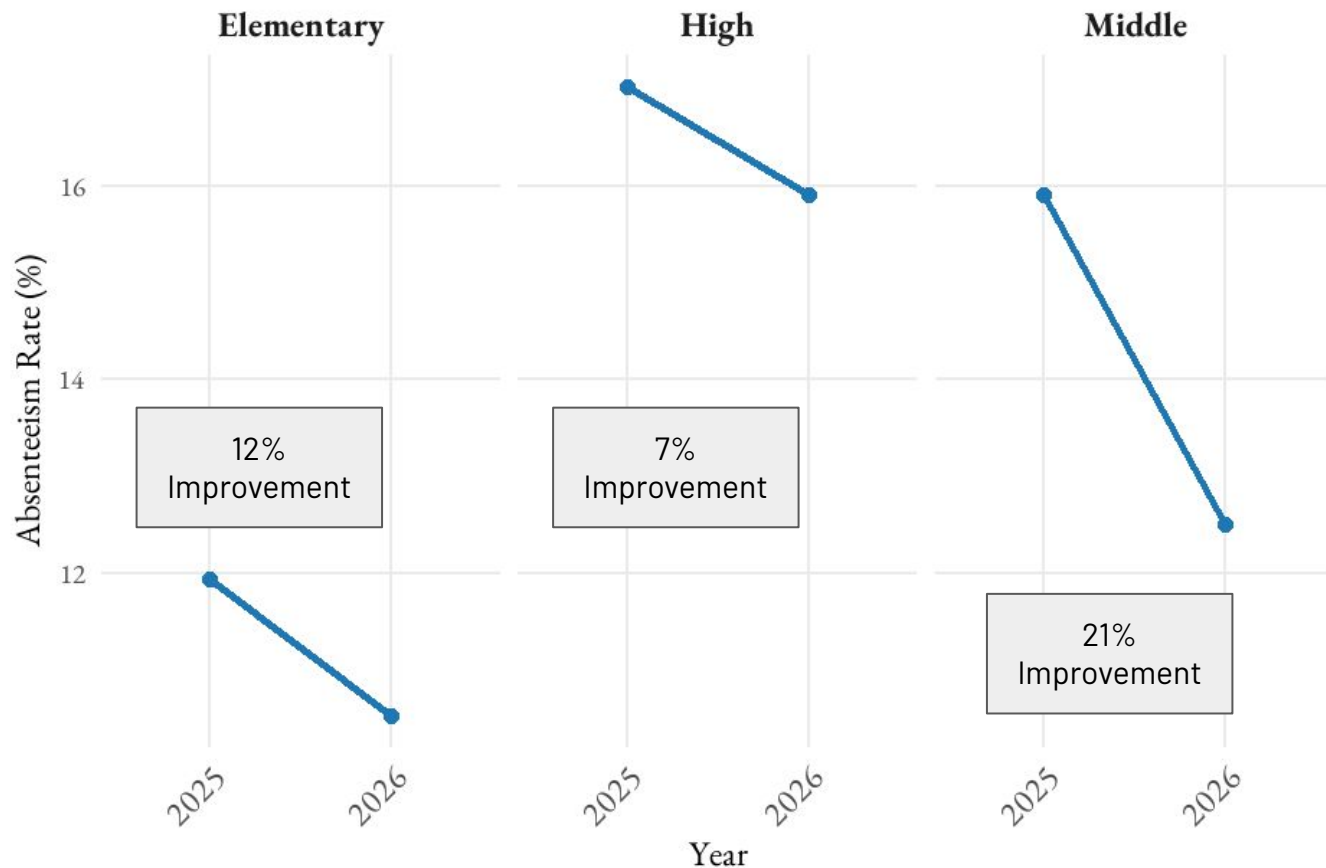
Chronic Absenteeism Has Dropped Across All Groups

Percentage of students chronically absent, SY 2425 vs. SY 2526



Chronic Absenteeism Has Dropped Across All Levels

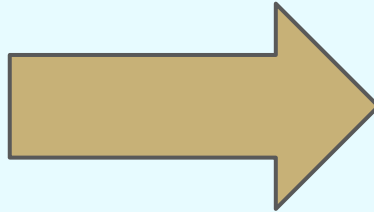
Percentage of students chronically absent, SY 2425 vs. SY 2526



Key Metric: Number of Chronically Absent Students

2000

chronically absent
students in School
Year 2024-2025



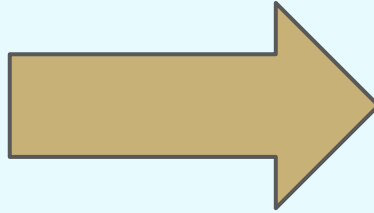
1679

chronically absent
students in School
Year 2025-2026

Key Metric: Overall Attendance Rate

94.25

Year 2024-2025



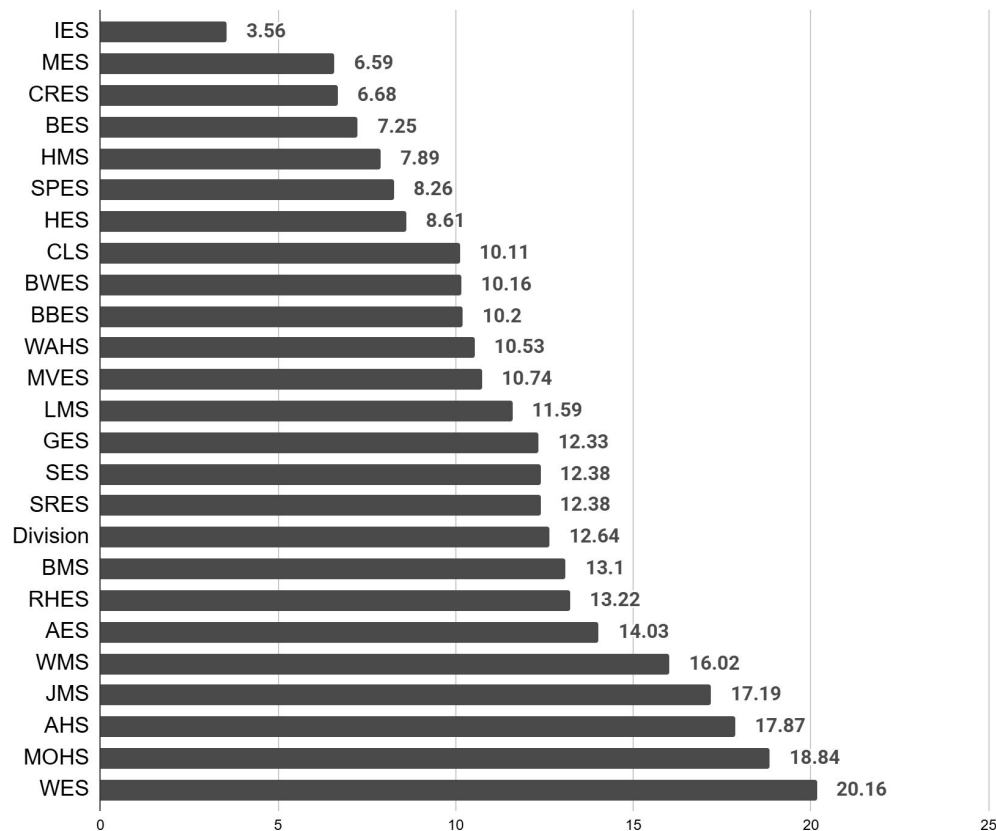
94.58

Year 2025-2026

This improvement represents around **7,809 additional school days** for students, and a cost **savings** of around **\$703,000** to the school division in remediation costs.

Qualified Chronic Absentee Rates 2025-2026

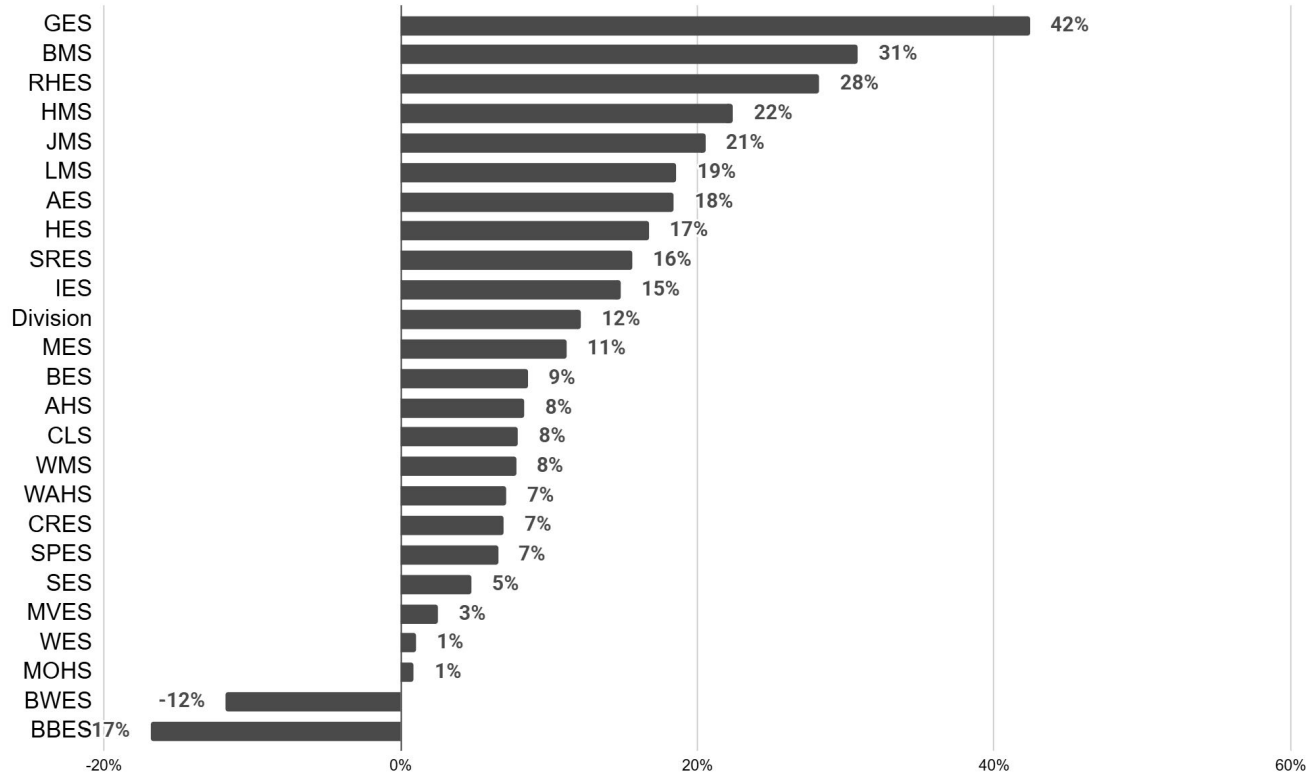
Flexible Learning Time Not Included



Substantial variation exists in chronic absentee rates across our schools, from **3.56%** at the lowest to **20.16%** at the highest.

Percent Improvement in Chronic Absentee Rates 2425 to 2526

Flexible Learning Time Not Included



Twenty-two of 24
(92%) ACPS
schools improved
chronic
absenteeism last
year.



Greer Elementary's Success

ACPS Attendance

CASE STUDY: GREER ELEMENTARY

1. Weekly **attendance meetings** using overall and individual **data**.
2. Assign **tiered support** to students based on **data trends**.
3. Individual and class **prizes** for high attendance.
4. **Proactive** classroom teacher outreach and **communication**.
5. Use of the **minivan** to drive to **homes** and **meet with families/students** and bring to school.

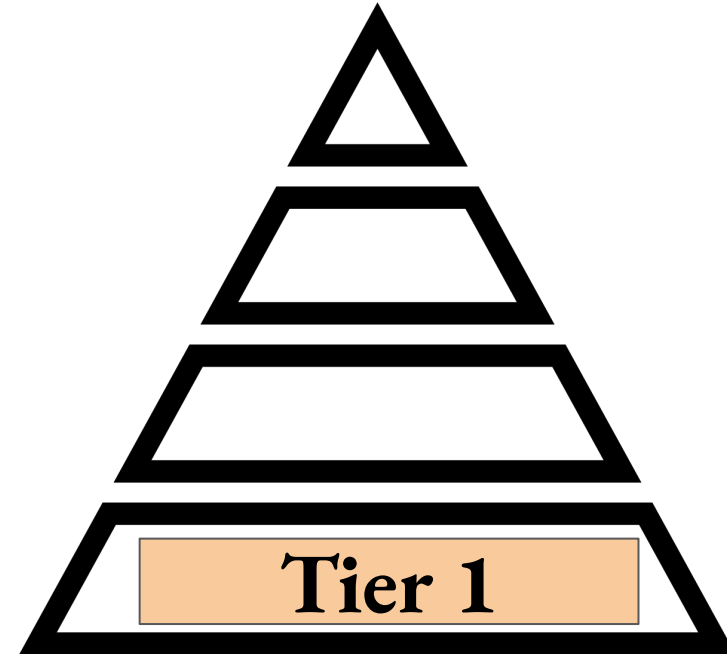
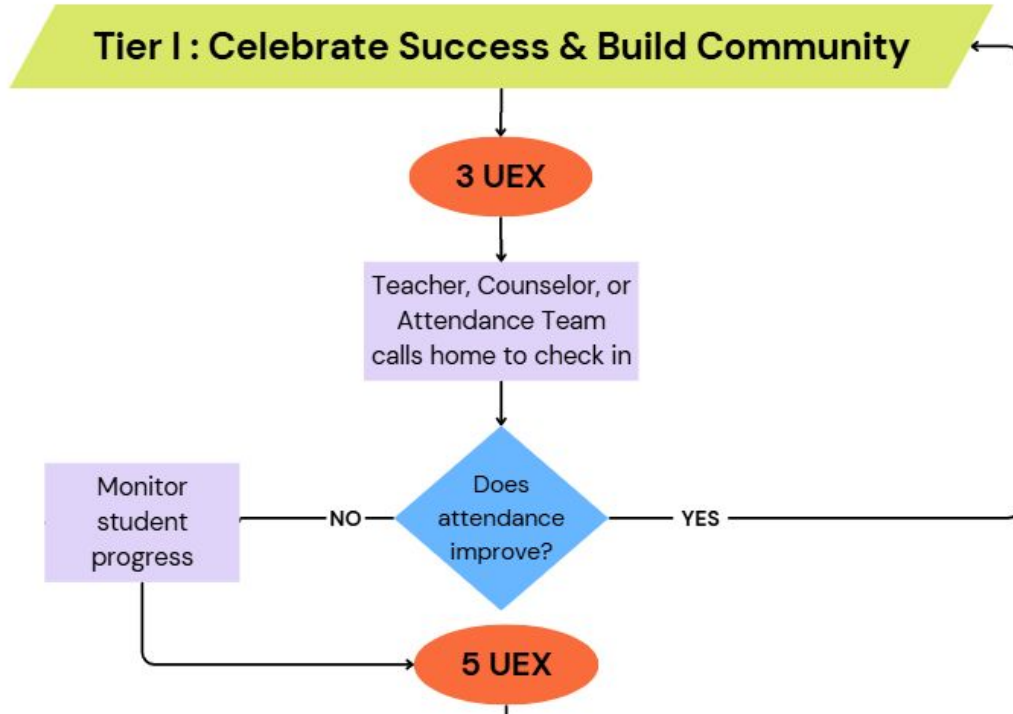




Tiered Support System

ACPS Attendance

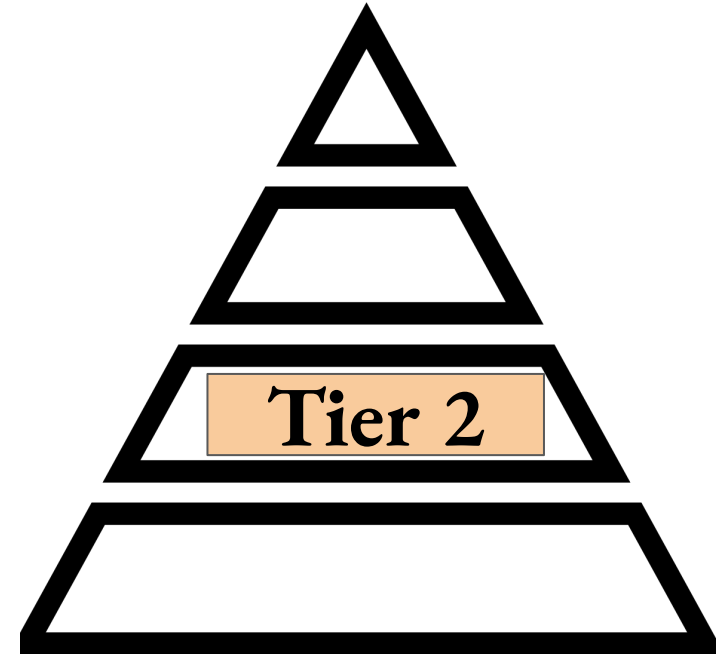
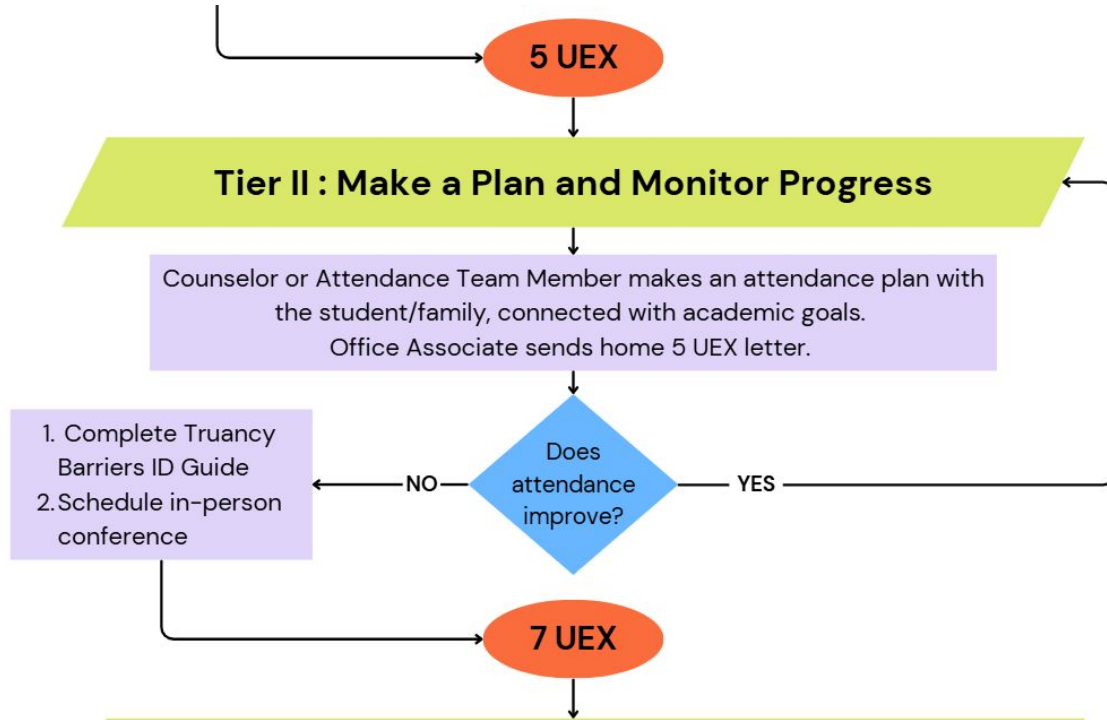
Tiered Attendance Support System



School Attendance Teams

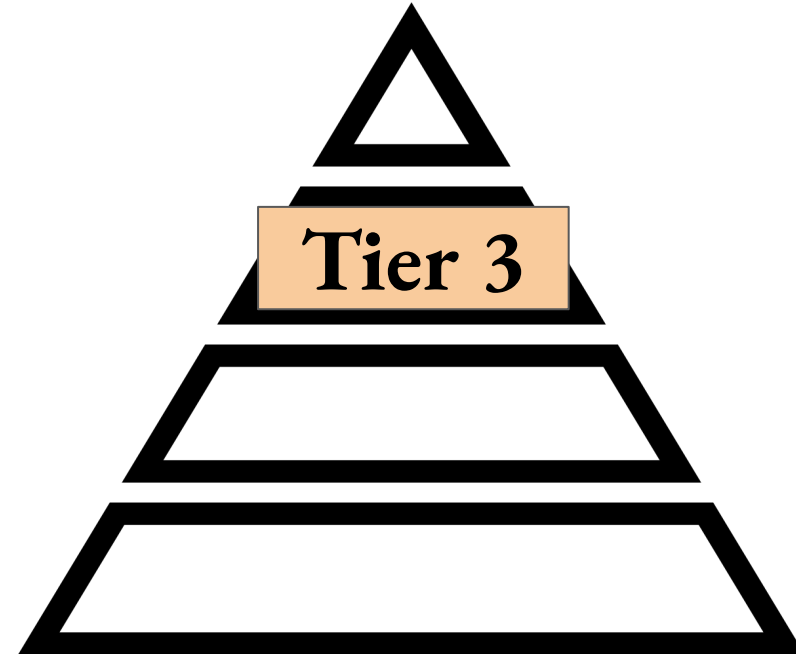
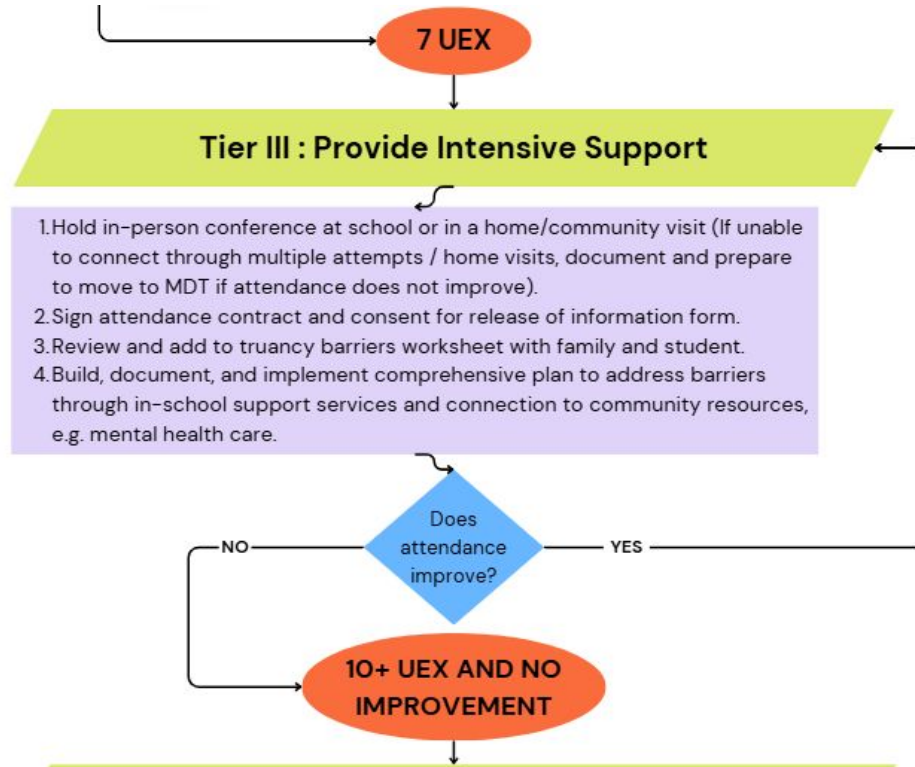
Tier II Support (≥ 5 UEX)

Always link attendance conversations to learning by sharing academic outcomes with caregivers and the way that attendance impacts these.



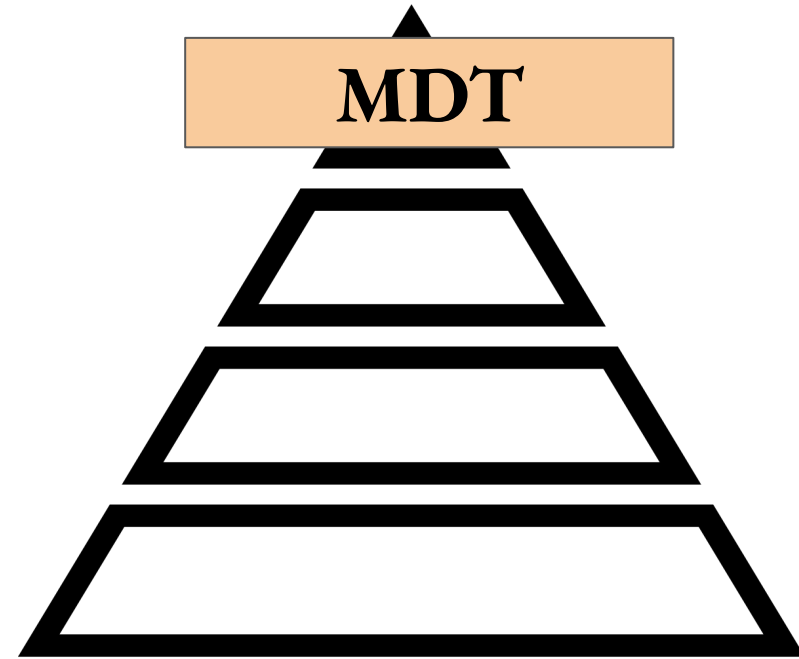
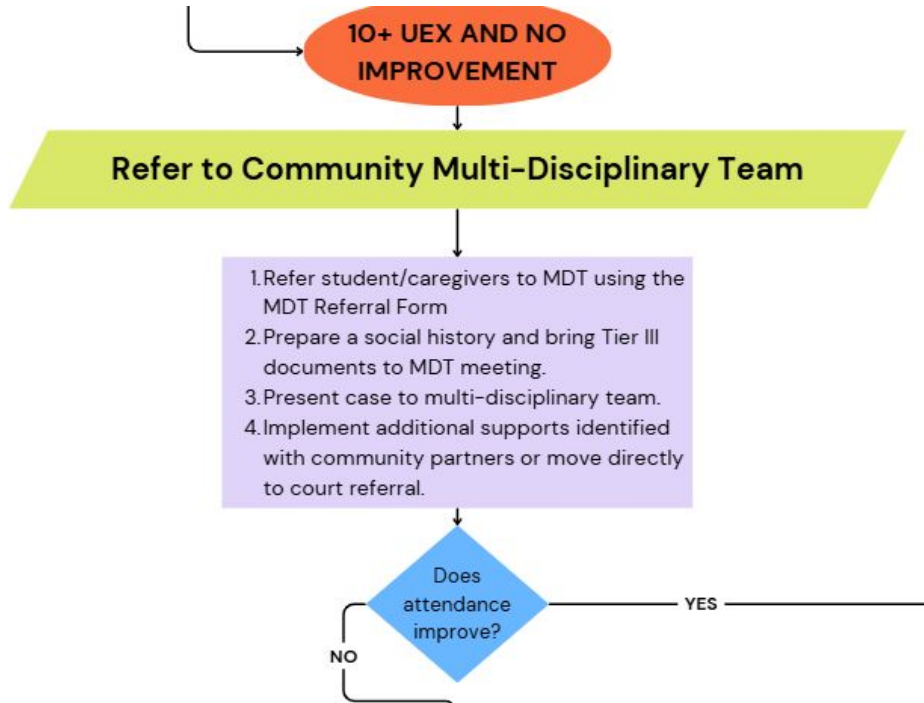
School Attendance Teams

Tier III Support (≥ 7 UEX)



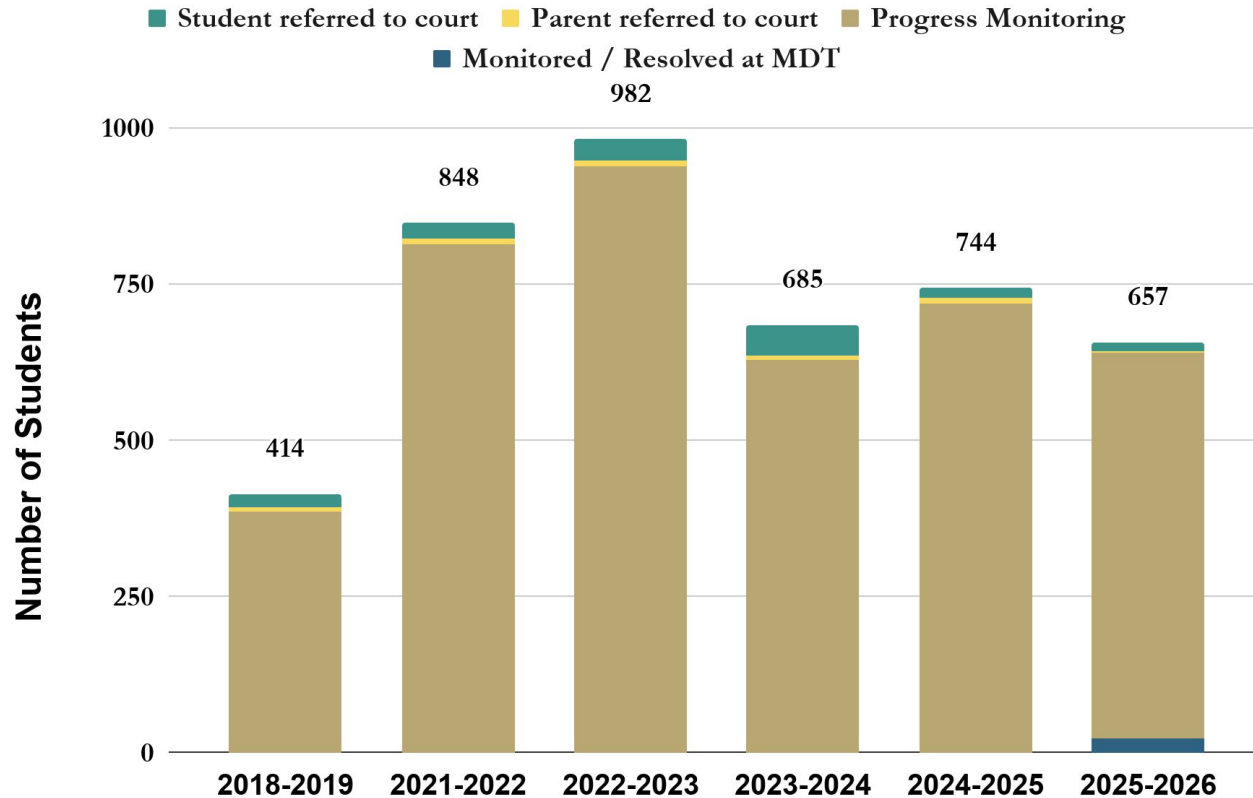
School Attendance Teams

Multi-Disciplinary Team & Court Services Unit (CSU)



Outcomes for Students Eligible for Truancy

10+ Unexcused Absences



With the implementation of MDT, **referrals to court for students and parents is down**; however there is evidence that **full implementation** of the multi-tiered system **has not yet been achieved**.



Going Forward

ACPS Attendance

Changes in 2026-2027

- **Proactive outreach** to families and students using data to inform decision making.
- **Increased division-level support** to school attendance teams.
- **Increased fidelity** to the **tiered system of support**, especially in community partnerships in Tier III.
- Increased **collaboration with community partners** in Tier III and beyond through more frequent meetings and data-informed decision making.



Questions

