



7

REASONS WHY

K-12 EDUCATION IS INVESTING IN
**ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT
SYSTEMS (AMS)**

1

Families receive the same experience from Kindergarten through 12th grade



"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

~ Aristotle

The power of habit is critical to attendance. Showing up is a habit that can only be developed by doing.

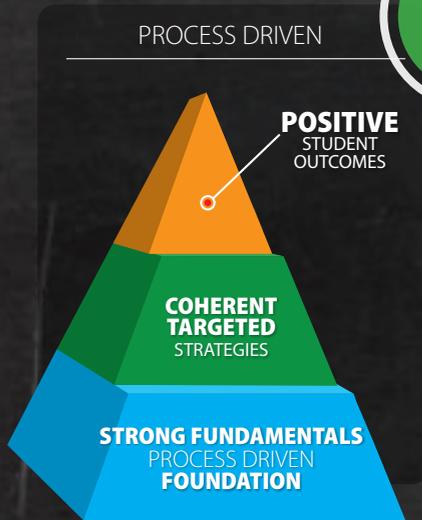
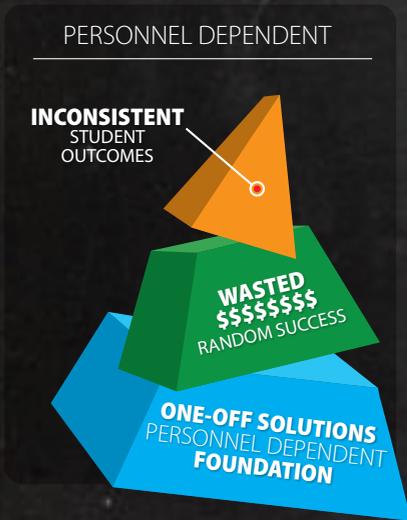
A generational bubble has emerged due to the pandemic. Current Kindergarteners, 1st graders or 2nd graders had never experienced a full year of "normal" instructional setting and have not developed the habit of showing up. The same can be said for our secondary students. We need to rebuild habits and rebuild the confidence of our students and parents – habits are built over time and a long-term plan is required.

A valuable AMS amplifies the importance of attendance across the entire organization. It ensures every family has the same type of consistent experience with their campus interactions – positive, timely, encouraging, supportive, engaging – that develops a partnership between families and their schools to get and keep kids in school. This is also an equity trigger as students of color have often more pronounced poor attendance habits.

CURRENT GRADE	LAST NORMAL GRADE
12 th Grade	9 th Grade
11 th Grade	8 th Grade
10 th Grade	7 th Grade
9 th Grade	6 th Grade
8 th Grade	5 th Grade
7 th Grade	4 th Grade
6 th Grade	3 rd Grade
5 th Grade	2 nd Grade
4 th Grade	1 st Grade
3 rd Grade	Kindergarten
2 nd Grade	Never
1 st Grade	Never
Kindergarten	Never

2

System Design Matters



The majority of districts implement personnel-driven processes relying on disjointed software: auto-dialers, chat bots, and individual user technical levels, resulting in wasted resources and unreliable and inconsistent results. While text messages are fast, they also are easily ignored, forgotten, or deleted. Consistent mail-based messaging that is visible to the parents is essential in building improved attendance habits.

An effective AMS is designed with consistent processes that have rigor and fidelity across all schools. It never gets sick or take the day off. This isn't to say that implementing a robust AMS is a silver bullet, our challenges won't change overnight. But when we focus on the fundamentals – implementing an enterprise solution – we effectively change processes that can lead the way to behavior/culture changes through a systematic approach.

3

Allows attendance staff to spend more time with parents and students

Providing the appropriate level of support to your team is imperative. Taking administrative and data analysis tasks off of over-burden staff enables them to do what they do best – build connections with students and families with actionable data provided through an AMS.



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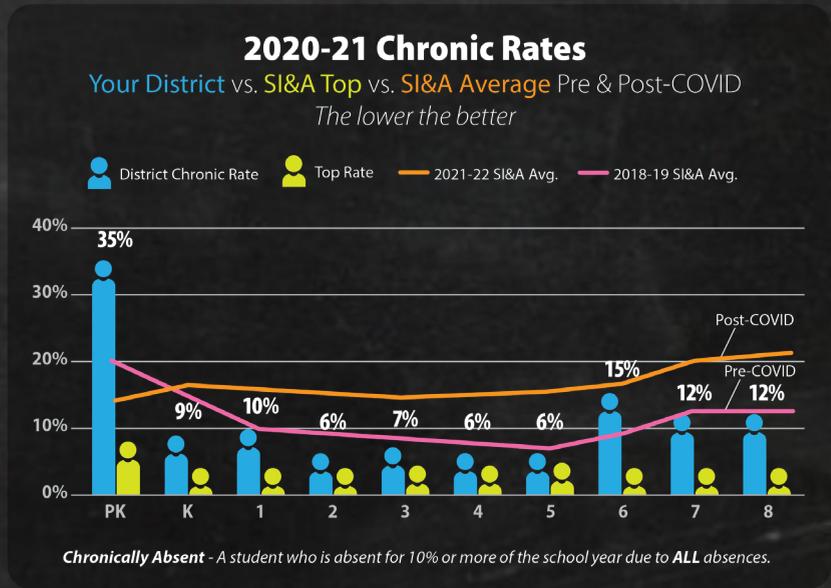
Data collection and analysis is standardized and streamlined

Naturally, with so many hands entering data into the SIS, data quality and integrity are a concern. A successful AMS “cleans” a district’s raw data, which is then standardized, and normalized enabling accurate and comparative analysis. This reconciliation process provides additional benefits in having confidence in the data being utilized and reported.

5

Unlocks deeper insights

SIS data doesn’t tell a story on its own. As only a data input system, it lacks in the analytical aspects of strong data-driven pedagogy. Common metrics, like ADA aggregate, can mask patterns and trends. Using an effective AMS, you no longer have to wonder what to do with the data you are collecting. It pulls data from across the enterprise into a central location and presents it in a visually compelling way that is easy to understand and informs appropriate decisions. The focus is now on the solution, versus admiring the problem.



6

Saves you time & money

AMS users report increased efficiencies and time savings using AMS interventions and supports. Funding tied to enrollment and attendance is enhanced. An effective AMS is revenue positive, helping stave off cuts to the classroom in lean budget years.

In a time where budgets are being squeezed and one-time Federal support is ending, the CFO is looking for ways to accurately predict revenue and track students



effectively. For most districts, an improvement of just one student per school can make for a full Return on Investment (ROI) on an AMS.

We know absences have an impact on academics, as an example, here is how it can impact the budget for a school district of 37,600 students. For each 1% of average daily attendance generates \$13,912 a day for the district. If 1% is recovered for 5 days that is \$69,560 or 1 new teacher with benefits.

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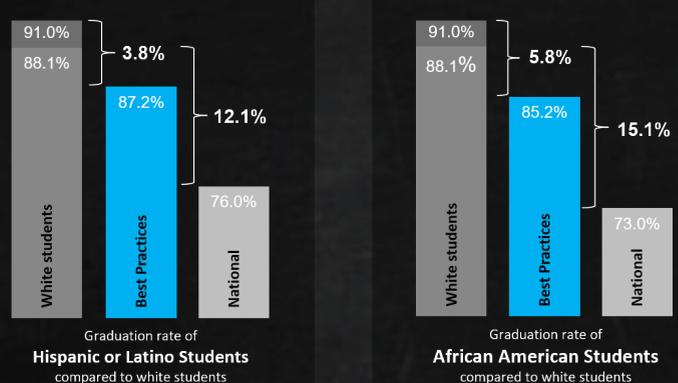
Produces better student outcomes

This again focuses on the equity lens of improved learning outcomes for all students. Knowing that once a student crosses past 10 – 14 absences in a year the aggregate grade point average begins to fall. After 4 years of this pattern a 3rd grade student would have missed the equivalent of half a year of instruction. Is it likely that this 3rd grader will be reading at grade level?

When students miss school, they are expected to make up what they missed and also stay on track with their assignments. This can become quickly overwhelming as they are doing double work without the context of support from their instructors. Quickly, students can become frustrated and manifest in other behaviors that alter their opportunity to achieve.

We are closing the gap in graduation rates

Compare national and Achievement Initiative averages
The Achievement Initiative rate based on seven consecutive years at 21 school districts



It's no surprise that kids who come to school do better than those that don't. Independently verified, case study analysis shows an AMS focus on continuous improvement results in higher than average graduation rates, across all subgroups.

Learn more about what an effective AMS can do for your district at www.sia-us.com/the-achievement-initiative