

**Every Learning Opportunity Matters: Promising Strategies to Help Students Show Up**

**Attendance Awareness Campaign Webinar #3 Discussion Guide**

September 30, 2020

Below are a suggested set of key questions to prompt discussion about what communities might do to elevate strategies that improve the community and school conditions of learning given insights shared during the webinar. Feel free to use some or all of the questions to prompt a rich conversation about how to take action.

1. **Covid-19 and Attendance in the 2020-21SY:** The speakers on the webinar shared the importance of positive and supportive relationships between school staff and families to supporting attendance this school year.

* How is our school community/district promoting relationships in this school year?
* What has made building relationships between teachers and their students and families hard? What has helped to overcome those challenges?

1. **Supporting and Leveraging Technology:** The speakers on the webinar discussed how they are finding ways to help students and families use technology to connect with schools. (i.*e. making sure every family has a device, offering tech support, creating a zoom/remote coordinator for each grade, using an app to address social emotional and support needs, calling for public policy to support access to broadband)*

* How is your school community/district helping students/families access and use to needed technology?
* Could you use any of strategies shared for leveraging and supporting technology during the webinar?

1. **The Importance of Attendance in the 2020-21SY:** Analysis of available attendance data show that during the Spring student participation significantly dropped after school building closure. As schools have opened this school year, tens of thousands of students still haven’t shown up to school or participate irregularly. What data can you explore to identify which students may need additional support to show up to school?

* Explore whether prior chronic absence, access to the internet and technology, contact information, and/or participation is available at the student or school level.
* Analyze the data available. Does the data seem accurate? Any surprises? What information would you add?
* What assets (in your school or community) could be drawn upon to help students attend and feel engaged in school each day?