

Portraits of Change:

Aligning School and Community Resources to Reduce Chronic Absence

Webinar Discussion Guide

September 12, 2017

Below are a suggested set of key questions to prompt discussion about what communities might do given insights shared during our webinar, *Portraits of Change: Aligning School and Community Resources to Reduce Chronic Absence*. Feel free to use some or all to prompt a rich conversation about how to take action.

1. The new report by Attendance Works and the Everyone Graduates Center, [*Portraits of Change: Aligning School and Community Resources to Reduce Chronic Absence*](#), includes these [state-by-state analyses of chronic absence](#). What percentage of schools in your state have extreme levels of chronic absence (30% or more), high levels (20-29.9%), or modest levels (5-9.9%)? What is the chronic absence level in your school? What factors (such as ages of students, type of locale, or presence of poverty) do you think contribute to the level of chronic absence in your school?
2. The first segment of the webinar proposed state and local level recommendations for step-by-step actions to address high levels of chronic absence. Where is your state or district in the process of implementing these recommendations?
3. Which of the three responses featured on the webinar – state, Native American/rural, or urban – best represents the situation in your community and what strategies did you hear might work best for your students and families?
4. What action steps can you take this year to help align resources in your state or district to address or prevent chronic absence?

It's not too late to tell us what you have planned! The 2017 Attendance Action Map is live here: <http://awareness.attendanceworks.org/map-2017/>