



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# Talk Tuesdays

Student Attendance, Engagement, and Support Series

May 31, 2022

Developed by the CSDE in collaboration with Attendance Works & SERC



# Who's here today?

Please share in chat:

- name, role, district or school



# Today's Agenda

## **Welcome**

Stephen Proffitt, Director for Special Education Programs and Instructional Design, SERC

## **What's New at CSDE and Partners**

Kari Sullivan Custer, Attendance & Engagement Consultant, CSDE

## **Truancy Data Collection, June 2022**

Kari Sullivan Custer

## **We want to hear from you...**

Steve and Kari

## **Upcoming Attendance & Engagement Meetings**



# What's New at CSDE

May 26, 2022

- [Updated: Healthy and Balanced Living Curriculum Framework](#)
- [Professional Learning Opportunity: Implementing African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies in your High Schools](#)

May 25, 2022

- Uvalde Texas School Shooting: Resources for Addressing Trauma, Violence and Grief, [Letter to Superintendents](#)
  - [Resources Addressing Trauma, Violence and Grief in the Aftermath of a Mass Shooting](#)
  - [Restoring a Sense of Well-Being in Children After a Disaster](#) (Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress)
  - [Talking to Children about the Shooting](#) (The National Child Traumatic Stress Network)
  - [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#) (National Association of School Psychologists)

May 24, 2022

- [Update: 2023 State Graduation Requirements Memo](#)

May 19, 2022

- [Emergency Educator Certification Endorsements for the 2022-23 School Year](#)
- [2023 Connecticut Teacher of the Year Application is Available Now](#)
- [High School Aged Student Summer Lifeguarding Job Opportunity!](#)
- [FBI Department of Justice – Racially or Ethnically Motivated Groups: Symbols Guide](#)

[Superintendent's Digest](#)  
([ct.gov](#))



# Truancy Data Collection 2022

[For the first time, the “June Collection” will include student-level truancy data. Record Layout \(ct.gov\).](#)

Truant – Student is truant (“Y” – Yes, “N” – No). An entry in this field is mandatory for the June collection; indicate “yes” for a student, age five to eighteen, inclusive, who is enrolled in a public or private school and has four unexcused absences from school in any one month (i.e., 30-calendar-day period) or ten unexcused absences from school in any school year. Truant is defined in Section 10-198a of the Connecticut General Statutes).



# Truancy Procedures

- State law, [C.G.S. Sec. 10-198a](#), requires school districts and schools to have specific policies and procedures regarding students who are truant. A truant is defined as a student who has had 4 unexcused absences from school in one month (30 consecutive calendar days) or 10 unexcused absences in one school year.
- If a student becomes truant, their school is required to have a meeting with the student's parent/ guardian within 10 school days. In this meeting, the school should work with the student and guardian to help the student return to school. Schools should also work with community agencies providing child and family services to address the student's barriers to coming to school.
- The CSDE, with its partners, has developed a [Youth Service Bureau Referral for Truancy and Defiance of School Rules Form](#) to assist districts in developing a system to formally refer students who are truant to the community's Youth Service Bureau. A [Youth Service Bureau Referral Guide](#) is also available to be used as a side-by-side resource to assist in completing the Youth Service Bureau Referral for Defiance of School Rules Form. I don't know if this is the policy that your district has established but the resources are there if you need them.



# Definition of “Truant”

[C.G.S. Sec. 10-198a](#), Policies and procedures concerning truants

- **Sec. 10-198a. Policies and procedures concerning truants.** (a) For purposes of this section and sections 10-198c and 10-220, “truant” means a child **age five to eighteen, inclusive**, who is enrolled in a public or private school and has four unexcused absences from school **in any one month** or ten unexcused absences from school in any school year.



# Truancy Discussion – definition of “one month”

- Definition of “any one month” – For the purposes of determining under C.G.S Section 10-198a(a) whether a student has had “four excused absences in any one month,” and is therefore truant, **a school district would not use specific months named in the calendar. Rather, the school district would use a period of time.**
- For example, if a student had unexcused absences on October 6, 13, and 21, and November 5, the student would have four unexcused absences in a month, that is, the period of time from October 6 through November 5.
- ***For purposes of truancy, a calendar month is a period of time vs a specific month named in the calendar.***





# Truancy Discussion – ages 5 through 18, inclusive

We have received many questions regarding student level [truancy](#) reporting in the June 2022 PSIS collection. Please note the following:

The reporting of truancy at the student-level is NOT required for students in Pre-Kindergarten.

- The reporting of truancy is not required for students over 18 years old on the collection snapshot date.
- For students in Kindergarten, truancy determination should begin after the student turns 5 years old. For example:
  - A 4-year old Kindergarten student has four unexcused absences within 30 days in the fall. After the student turns 5 in December, they do not have any subsequent 30-day period with four unexcused absences. In total the student has 8 unexcused absences in the whole school year. **The student is NOT truant.**
  - A 4-year old Kindergarten student has four unexcused absences within 30 days in the fall. After the student turns 5 in December, they do not have any subsequent 30-day period with four unexcused absences. In total the student has 11 unexcused absences in the whole school year but only 7 of those are after the student turns 5. **The student is NOT truant.**



# Talk Tuesday FAQ

**Question:** Does the state collect and report truancy data? Do districts/schools have an opportunity to correct/verify the date?

- In the past, CSDE has collected truancy numbers in the aggregate from each district in the June Collection. This was a self reported total # of students determined to be truant in the school year.
- This year, for the first time, CSDE will collect student level truancy data in the June PSIS Collection.
- Data Field Description, page 24, [Record Layout \(ct.gov\)](#)
  - Truant – Student is truant (“Y” – Yes, “N” – No). An entry in this field is mandatory for the June collection; indicate “yes” for a student, age five to eighteen, inclusive, who is enrolled in a public or private school and has four unexcused absences from school in any one month (i.e., 30-calendar-day period) or ten unexcused absences from school in any school year. Truant is defined in Section 10-198a of the Connecticut General Statutes.
  - Dates for data submission, review/revision, and data freeze. This schedule is the same for truancy and chronic absence data submissions that are part of the June 2022 collection.

Collection	Freeze Cycle	Submission Due Date (TIMELY)	Final Revision Date (ACCURATE)	Freeze Dates
Case Management		Cases Resolved within 10 school days	No open cases more than 20 school days old	
PSIS Summer Roll Up		September 15, 2021	September 30, 2021	
October 2021	Freeze 0 (F0)	October 15, 2021	October 30, 2021	November 1, 2021
	Freeze 1 (F1)			January 31, 2022
	Freeze 2 (F2)			January 31, 2023
PSIS Registration	Testing Accountability Freeze			Date TBD
June 2022	Freeze 1 (F1)	July 14, 2022	August 11, 2022	August 18, 2022



# Guidance for Connecticut School Districts: Enrollment Process and Practice At-a-Glance Overview



Documents which may be *required* prior to *enrollment* to determine eligibility to attend school in the district

- Documents pertaining to residency in the district and student's age
- Current apartment or home lease agreement, a mortgage document, property tax record, rent receipt, homeowners' insurance
- Current utility, cable, home or cell phone bill, or insurance correspondence
- Current proof of government benefits or other government correspondence showing an address
- A current Connecticut driver's license, automobile registration, or automobile insurance

Documents which may be *required... after* determining eligibility to attend school but *prior* to beginning classes

- Immunization and health assessment records

Documents/data which may be *requested* any time after enrollment

Any data necessary to comply with federal or state data collection requirements or other legal responsibilities, as well as to assist the district in properly educating its students. This may include but is not limited to demographic data and/or English proficiency status

# Upcoming Attendance & Engagement Meetings

## Talk Tuesday

Tuesday, **June 14, 2022**

Have a **promising practice or success**

you want to share?

**Concerns** you want to share through peer discussion?

**Send ideas for topics for discussion** to [Kari.Sullivan@ct.gov](mailto:Kari.Sullivan@ct.gov).



# KEEP IN TOUCH!

**Kari Sullivan Custer, CSDE**

[Kari.Sullivan@ct.gov](mailto:Kari.Sullivan@ct.gov)

860-807-2041

**Stephen Proffitt, SERC**

[proffitt@ctserc.org](mailto:proffitt@ctserc.org)

860-632-1485, ext. 322

