



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Talk Tuesdays

Student Attendance, Engagement, and Support Series

December 14, 2021

Please [sign-in](#) using the chat - include your name, title, district/school or agency.

Developed by the CSDE in collaboration with SERC



***Notice: This meeting is
being recorded.***

Introductions

Please share in chat:

- name, position, district and
- one thing that you look forward to doing over winter break.



Agenda

1. *Welcome*

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

2. *What's New at CSDE and Partners*

Kari Sullivan Custer, Attendance & Engagement Consultant, CSDE

3. *Improving Attendance by Addressing Homelessness and Housing Instability*

Louis Tallarita, Education Consultant, Office of Student Supports and Organizational Effectiveness

Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, CSDE

4. Upcoming Attendance & Engagement Meetings

Notice: This meeting is being recorded.



WHAT'S NEW AT CSDE AND PARTNERS



What's New at CSDE

December 9, 2021

- [High school principals and school counselors: Rigorous Coursework Letters to Students and Parents](#)
- [Project COVID DeteCT is Expanding](#)
- [DPH/CSDE Screen and Stay Guidance](#) translations: [Spanish](#); [Portuguese](#); [Polish](#); [Haitian/Creole](#); [Arabic](#); [Chinese](#)



December 3, 2021

- [Emergency Educator Certification Endorsements](#)

December 2, 2021

- [Staying in School Safely During COVID-19: An Evening with CT Medical Experts for Parents and Families](#)
- [EdSight Public is Getting an Upgrade - Survey](#)
- [Connecticut National Guard – Recruiter Access to Schools](#)
- [Student Recruitment for Choice Programs and Specialized Schools](#)
- [Adult Education and the GED](#)





Connecticut State Department of Education Professional Support Series for Families

Please see below and join as we learn together and grow together.

Series 28 — December 2, 2021

Staying in School Safely During COVID-19: An Evening with CT Medical Experts for Parents and Families

Date:

Thursday, December 16, 2021, 5–6 p.m.

Register:

<https://serc.info/housecall1216>

Contact:

judy.carson@ct.gov

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), together with Connecticut Children's and the Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is hosting a webinar to share the latest medical information for keeping students safe, healthy, and in school during the winter months. This session will address families' most frequently asked questions about vaccinations, quarantining, mask wearing, social distancing, social-emotional supports, and other COVID-related health concerns.

The expert panel includes:



Robert Dudley, MD, MEd, FAAP

Immediate Past President, CT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics



Robert D. Keder, MD

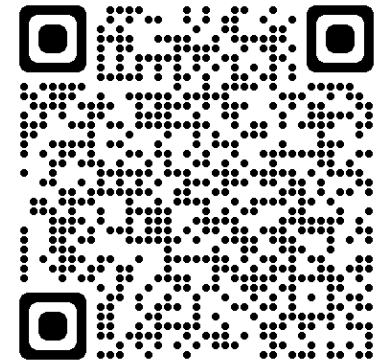
Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, Connecticut Children's
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, UCONN School of Medicine



Juan Salazar, MD, MPH, FAAP

Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, Physician-in-Chief,
Connecticut Children's

This session will be recorded and posted online with closed captioning in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Arabic. Everyone registered will receive a notice when it is posted.



[Download flyer!](#)

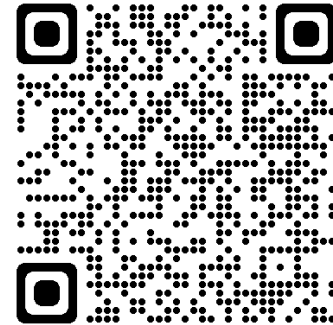


Register Now! PTHV Training

Meeting Registration



Topic	Parent Teacher Home Visiting Training
Description	The research is clear, families are essential to student success. Parent Teacher Home Visit Training (PTHV) focuses on building the capacity of educators and school staff to build meaningful relationships with families.
Time	Jan 20, 2022 02:00 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)



[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

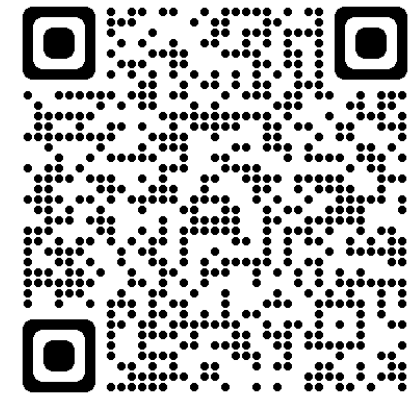
[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)



How to Text Message Parents to Reduce Chronic Absence Using an Evidence-Based Approach

NCEE 2022-008
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Publication of the National Center for Education Evaluations at IES



Download report!

Track Data Early and Often...

Now on EdSight

2020-21 Chronic Absence Rates



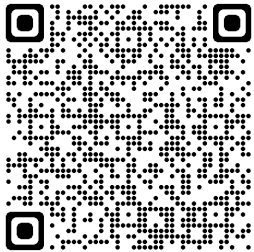
- State
- District
- School
- Student groups (Els, SWDs, Grade, F/R Meals)

just released
October 2021

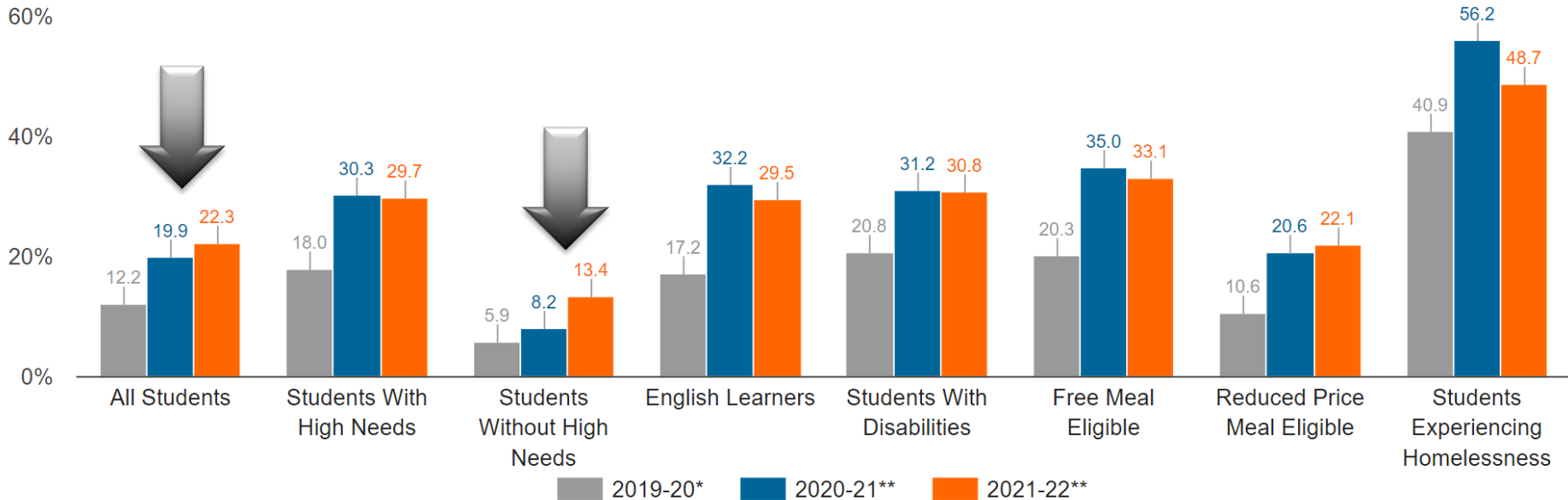


October 2021 Attendance Data

- [Attendance by Student Group and District, 2021-2022 \(.csv\)](#)
- [Attendance by School, 2021-2022 \(.csv\)](#)
- [District Attendance Rates by High Needs category and by grade \(.xlsx\)](#)
- [District Attendance Rates for English learners and students with disabilities by grade band \(.xlsx\)](#)
- [Chronic Absence by District \(.xlsx\)](#)
- [District Chronic Absence and Attendance Rates for students with disabilities by primary disability \(.xlsx\)](#)

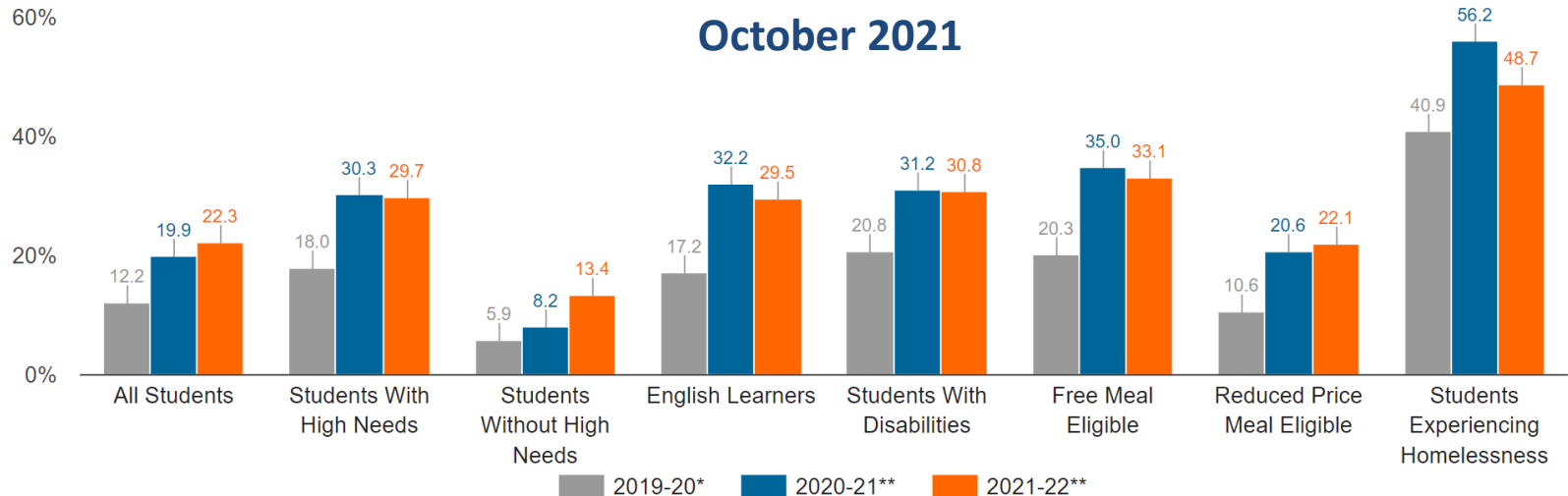


Percentage of Students Chronical Absent by Student Group - YTD 10/21

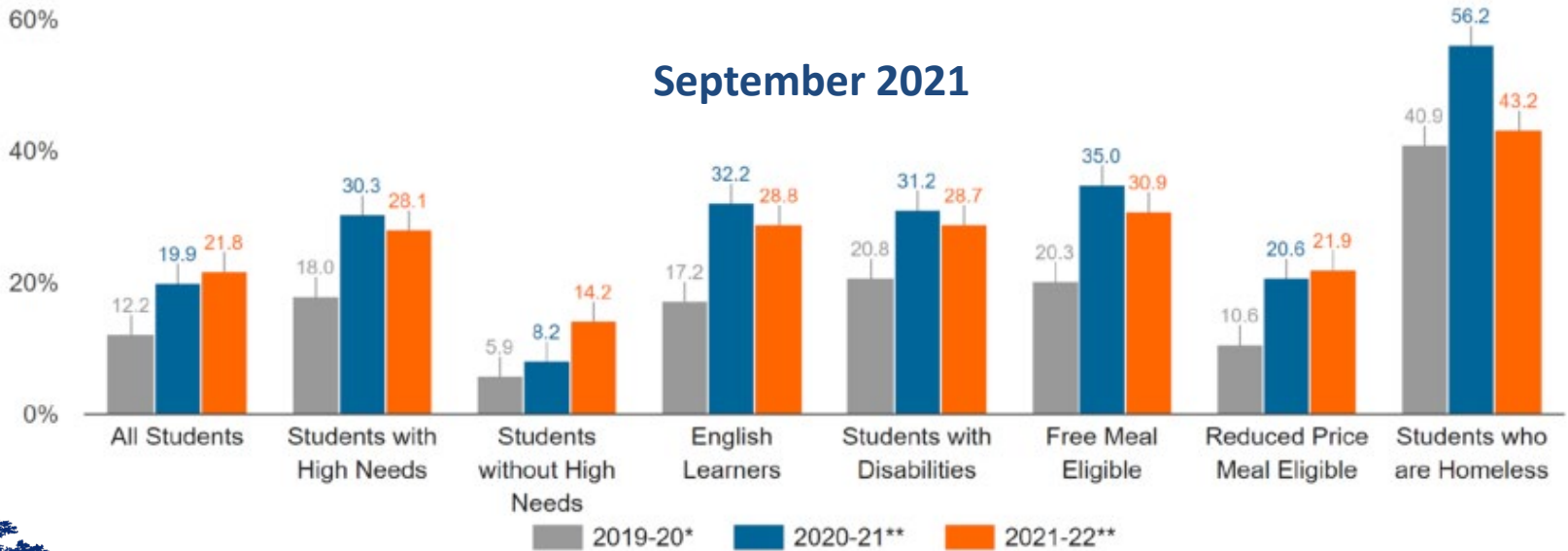


*Calculations are based only on in-person school days until mid-March 2020. **Calculations include both in-person and remote days.





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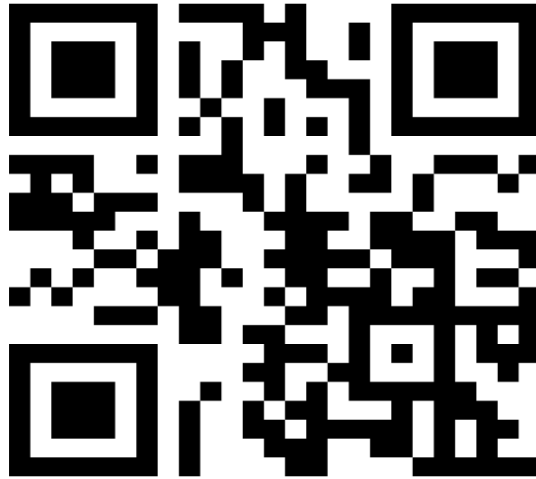
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Improving Attendance by Addressing Homelessness and Housing Instability

What are your current practices?

<https://www.menti.com/yuthtc3qw1>



What Districts Can Do

- **Align and embed protocols to ensure all homeless children and youth (HCY) are in school.**
 - [McKinney-Vento \(MV\) Homeless Assistance Act](#) requires districts remove barriers to the identification, enrollment, stability, and success of HCY.

Who is “homeless”

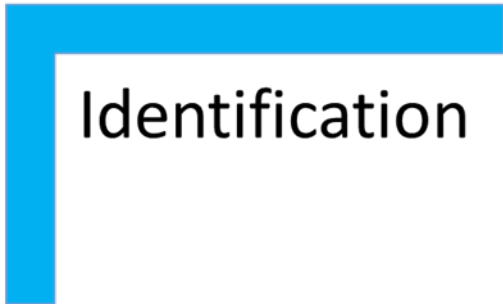
An individual who **lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence**, including children and youth who are:

- Sharing housing due to loss of housing or economic hardship.
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate housing.
- Living in emergency or transitional housing.
- Living in a public or private space not designed for humans to live.
- Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.



Early Identification

Structures and systems must be in place to intervene early if a student is not attending school on a regular basis.



Identification



Supports and
services



Student
Success

McKinney-Vento liaison

- Include M-V liaisons into District and School Attendance Review Teams.
- Examine overlapping [responsibilities](#).
- Ensure capacity, time and knowledge to effectively carry out MV duties.
- Designate school building-level McKinney-Vento contacts.



McKinney-Vento

- [Connecticut LEA Homeless Liaison Catalog](#) Updated as of 10-12-21.
- [CSDE "Homeless Education" web page](#).



Build capacity of school staff

- Ensure Federal law compliance to provide professional development and training re: HCY and M-V.
- Develop cross-training events with attendance and liaisons.
- Include school staff at all levels; teachers, secretaries, counselors, bus drivers, and principals.
- Reinforce LEA awareness and outreach.



Monitor HCY data and attendance

- Examine data to determine if HCY are being identified (grades/schools/district).
- Watch attendance among identified HCY and intervene quickly to address challenges.
- Disaggregate data to determine trends and identify needs in order to select strategies that address barrier or concerns.

HCY Data

- Review local PSIS data (present/past) on students identified and determine data clean and accurate.
- Question no or low reports of students homeless and/or unaccompanied.
- Examine lower than average comparison rates among data on free/reduced students to identified homeless.
- Compare other community data that indicate levels of poverty among families, trends in foreclosures, evictions, and the availability of affordable housing.



Connect HCY to services

- Connect directly to school nurses, school social workers, school counselors and other school professionals.
- Provide services and education programs comparable to those received by other students and for which they meet eligibility criteria:
 - Title I, part A.
 - IDEA accommodations and supports.
 - Dual language supports
 - Vocational or technical programs.
 - Gifted and talented programs.
 - Tutoring, remediation and homework assistance.
 - Food and school nutrition programs (qualified free).
 - School uniform, supplies and equipment.



Address transportation issues

- Ensure HCY transportation needs are addressed without delay.
- Develop transportation guidelines/procedures with district transportation administrators to ensure immediate transportation to/from school.
- Consider both short-term (immediate) options, while long-term options are arranged.
- Work with regional partners to assemble multi-district agreements and set regional policies and practices.



Transfer records timely

- Both federal and State law require the prompt transfer of records between previous and enrolling schools.
- Even though enrollment cannot be denied due to the lack of records, prompt transfer of records safeguards student is placed in appropriate learning environment.
- Reduces threat of academic failure and ensures services needed to support educational stability and success.



Collaboration is KEY

Working and planning together to address challenges, barriers and solutions.

- Among all district programs and departments.
- Community collaboration with housing and homeless service providers.
- Engage families in full, equal and equitable partnerships.
- Inter-district partnerships.





Questions?



Resources

- [CSDE Homeless Education Webpage](#)
- [National Center for Homeless Education](#)
- [SchoolHouse Connection](#)
- [National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth](#)



Exit Slip

Mentimeter

By computer: <https://www.menti.com/vfb9kwv2fj>

By phone:



Upcoming Attendance & Engagement Meetings

Talk Tuesday

Tuesday, **January 11, 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.

Attendance & Engagement
Community of Practice

Thursday, **January 20, 2021**

No CoP in December 2021

Save the dates!

All CoPs are held on the 3rd Thursday
of the month from 10 to 11:30 a.m.



KEEP IN TOUCH!

Kari Sullivan Custer, CSDE

Kari.Sullivan@ct.gov

860-807-2041

Stephen Proffitt, SERC

proffitt@ctserc.org

860-632-1485, ext. 322

