


What Districts with Better Attendance Are Doing Differently

A communication practice most districts are missing

The Problem We All Share:

“The majority of students who drop out were chronically absent as early as 9th grade.”

Dr. Tameka Lewis,
Grand Prairie ISD



Why This Matters:

Other research shows only 42% of students feel part of their school community, and when students feel heard, their investment increases.



What We Found When We Asked Around:

We surveyed districts about their communication practices and discovered:



Most focus their attendance communications on families (97%)



A small group (3%) also communicates **directly with students** about their attendance, and those districts report seeing better results: improved attendance, stronger student connection, even better family engagement

The Simple Question:

What if the missing piece in our attendance strategies isn't a new program - **but including students in conversations we're already having?**



Everything okay? We noticed you weren't in class today.

See What They're Doing:

Want the specifics on how these districts approach student communication? **This guide breaks down their practices.**

