



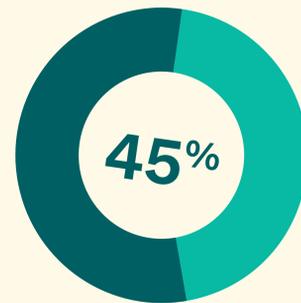
IF YOU WANT STUDENTS TO COME TO SCHOOL...

You have to help them feel safe first

THE CHAIN REACTION

If you want students to **come to school**...
You have to help them **feel safe**.
To feel safe, they need **protection** from bullying.

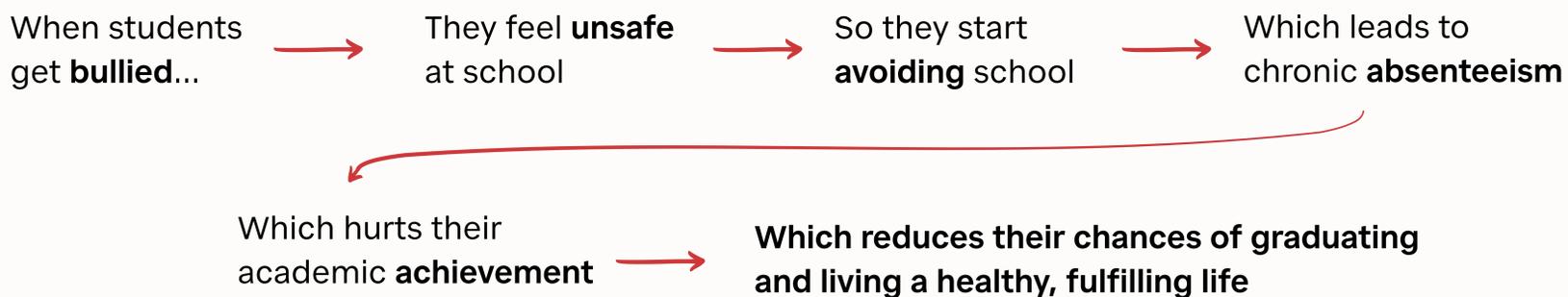
But **28%** of middle schools report **weekly bullying incidents**.
And **37%** deal with **weekly cyberbullying**.
When bullying happens several times a week, **absences increase by 45%***



increase in absences when bullying happens several times a week*



BECAUSE HERE'S WHAT HAPPENS



SO, IF YOU WANT STUDENTS TO SHOW UP...

1. You need **strong teacher-student relationships** (because teacher attachment buffers against absences)
2. You need students to **feel safe** (because perceived safety keeps kids coming even when bullying occurs)
3. You need to watch **attendance patterns** (because data reveals who's avoiding school)
4. You need **safe reporting systems** (because early intervention prevents escalation)



THE BOTTOM LINE

If you want **good attendance**...
Start with **safety**.

*Statistics are from "How bullying contributes to K-12 student absenteeism" by Dr. Joy Smithson on eSchool News