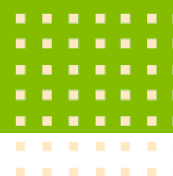




## Viewpoints

# Addressing School Attendance During the Summer Months Can Mitigate Absenteeism Throughout the School Year



Addressing absenteeism during the summer months is a critical strategy that schools can leverage to foster student engagement and improve attendance throughout the school year. As highlighted in recent findings, the summer break presents a unique opportunity for schools to identify and reconnect with students at risk of disengaging. By proactively reviewing attendance data and reaching out to families through targeted outreach efforts, schools can create personalized support systems that mitigate potential barriers such as transportation issues or health concerns.

Summer programs play a pivotal role in this approach, offering not only academic enrichment but also social-emotional support that reignites students' interest in learning. Programs that blend educational activities with opportunities for students to build relationships and reconnect with their school community can significantly reduce chronic absenteeism. Moreover, initiatives like home visits and orientation camps help establish early connections between students and schools, reinforcing the importance of regular attendance from the outset. By employing these strategies during the summer months, schools not only address immediate attendance challenges but also lay a foundation for sustained student success throughout the academic year. This proactive approach not only helps in reducing absenteeism but also cultivates a positive school environment where every student feels valued and supported in their educational journey.

You can read the full article at:

**More than 14 million students—about 1 in 4 nationwide—missed at least 10 percent of school days in 2022-23, continuing higher rates of chronic absenteeism since the pandemic. While there are no national data yet for the 2023-24 school year, some districts with improving attendance report last summer helped give them a boost.**



[www.edweek.org/...](http://www.edweek.org/...)

## Professionals

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