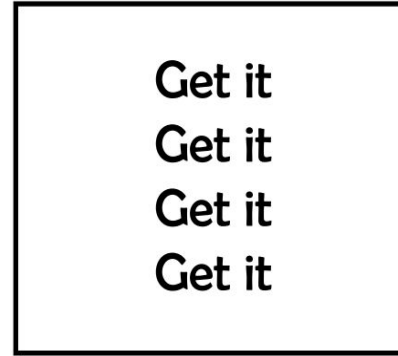
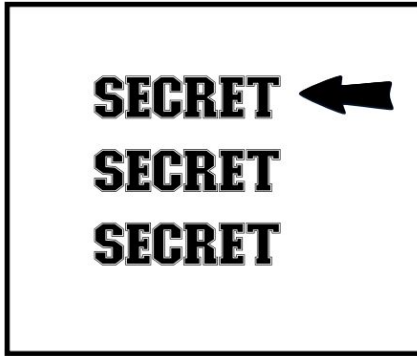


Choose a “good one” from the table and settle in.



Reaching and Engaging ALL Learners From the Moment They Walk Through the Door

Jess Anderson, Director of Count ME In
(sponsored by Julie Smyth, Director of the OSSS)



www.countmeinmaine.org

Reaching and Engaging ALL Learners from the Moment They Walk Through the Door

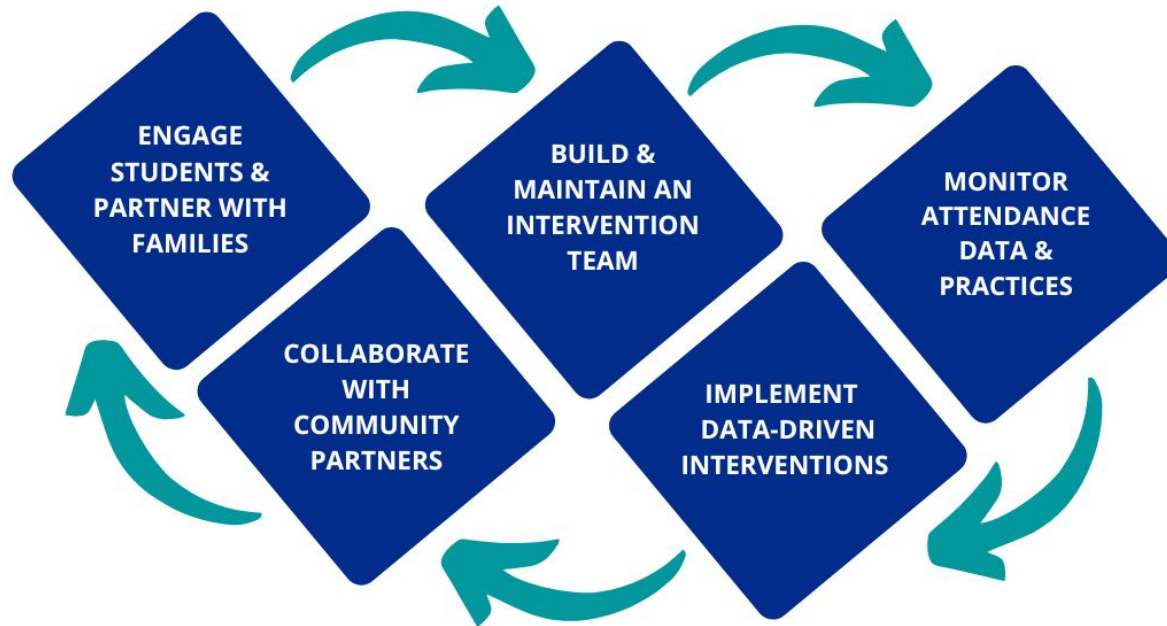
August 9, 2022 1:15 PM & 3:15PM

Jess Anderson



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Count ME In Model

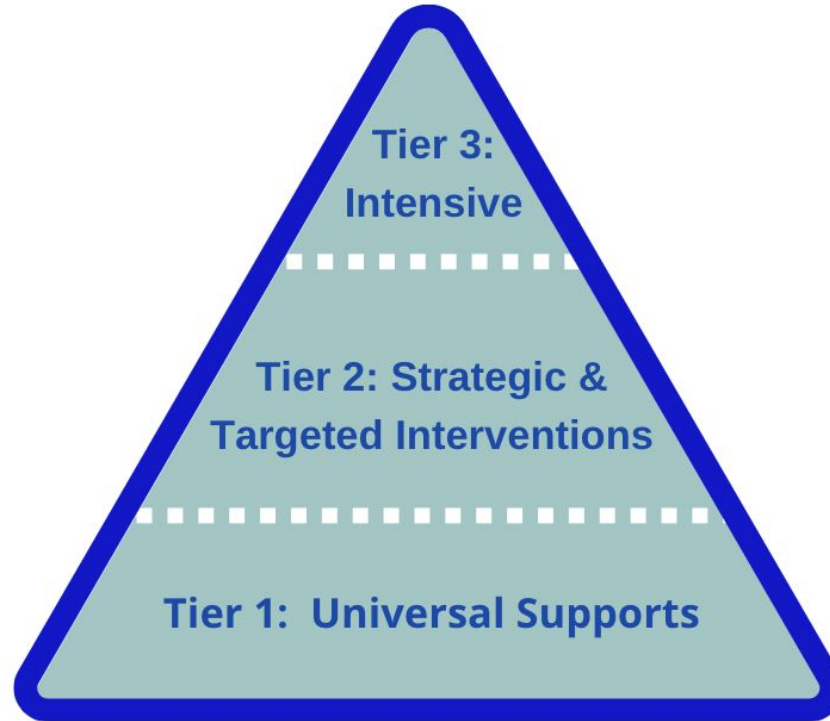


Goals

1. Participants will be proficient in five, flexible strategies for integrating social-emotional learning, community building, and academics.
2. Participants will be familiar with at least two proactive strategies for improving engagement for students with a history of chronic absenteeism.



Multi-Tiered Attendance Supports



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Best Practices for All Students

- ❑ Our school has a welcoming and engaging climate that promotes safety, belonging, great teaching and learning and authentic relationships.
- ❑ Our school promotes a culture of attendance in year-round communication to families.
- ❑ Our school partners with community agencies that offer resources to help engage students and remove attendance barriers.
- ❑ Our school ensures staff know what chronic absence is, why it matters and what are effective attendance practices
- ❑ Our strategies for supporting attendance are reflected in our school improvement plan.

Agenda

Universal Strategies

- Routines
- Offer Choices
- Practice a Growth Mindset
- Build Relationships
- Develop a Shared Vision

Interventions

- Early Warning Systems
- Attendance Plans
- Mentors



Opening Routines

1. Use a Hook
2. Do Now
3. Share a Word
4. Quote of the Day
5. The Reading Minute

top secret

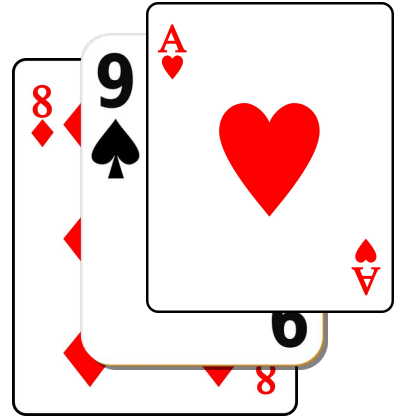
forget it



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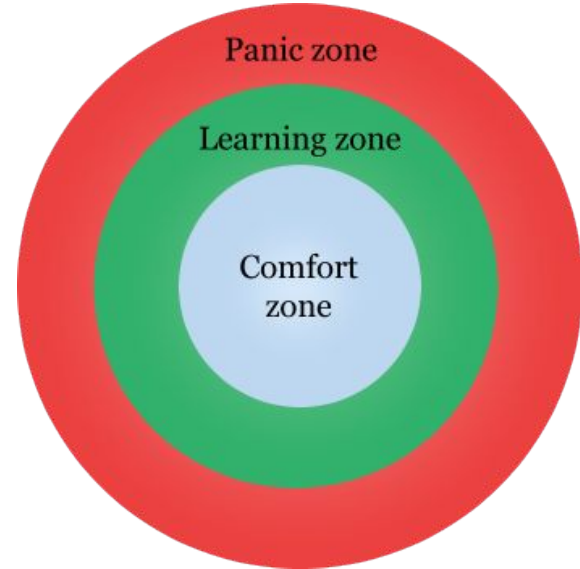
Offer Choices

- Choose your partner
- Work wherever you like (as long as you are on task)
- Complete evens or odds
- Complete these three tasks, but in any order
- This project has 3 output options
- Scavenger hunts/ Escape room structures
- If you finish early, here are your choices



Practice a Growth Mindset

- Card Prediction
- Push-Catch
- Negative->Positive
- Famous Fails
- Comfort Circles



"Each time you try something for the first time you will grow-a little piece of the fear of the unknown is removed and replaced with a sense of empowerment." -Annette White



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Build Relationships

- Commonalities
- Threshold Greetings
- Turn & Talk
- 2 x 10
- Shout Outs



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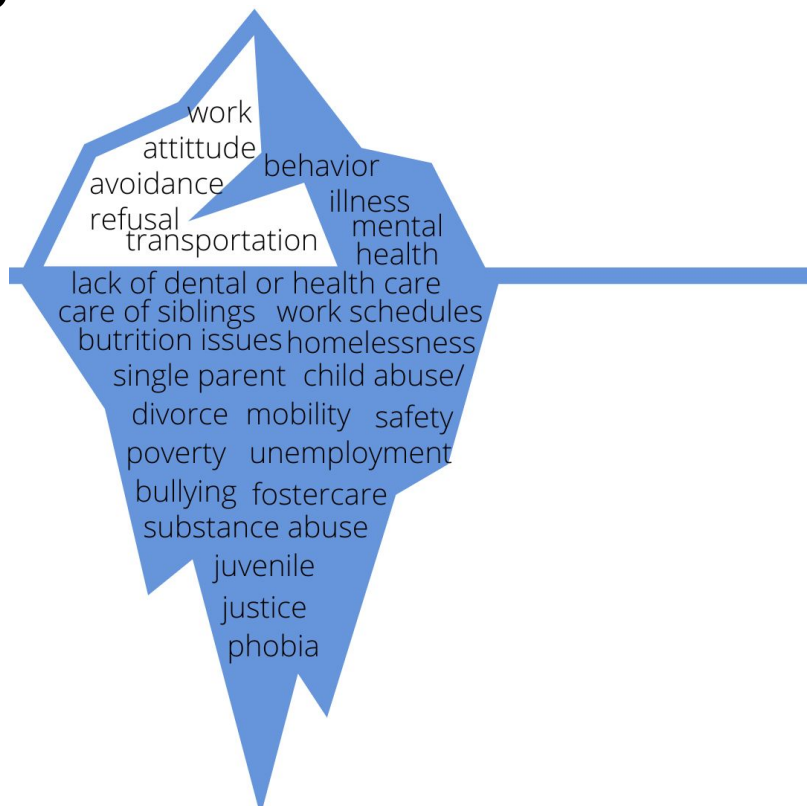
Develop a Shared Vision

- Brainstorm & Value Voting
- Us/Not Us (or Me/Not Me)
- Look Like/Sound Like/Feel Like
- Handprint



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Why aren't learners at school?



Worksheet: Understanding the root causes for student absenteeism

Use these questions to help identify the likely causes of absenteeism for a student who is chronically absent in your class. Understanding the root causes for missing too much school can help determine the best course of action. Is this something that you can help your student and his/her family overcome? Or is there an underlying issue that requires additional support, perhaps from the school social worker or guidance counselor?

Academic Conditions	
Is the student struggling academically? Consider what skills and content the student has missed as a result of his or her absences as well as other instructional needs.	Y / N
Does the student need accommodations to benefit from classroom instructions? (e.g. peer support, access to computer, breaks, material presented in different ways)	Y / N
Does the student have language or communication challenges?	Y / N
Does the student struggle with organizational tasks?	Y / N
Are there barriers to homework completion?	Y / N
Do you suspect that the student has an unidentified disability?	Y / N
Safety Concerns	
Have there been any reports of bullying?	Y / N
Is the student exposed to race, disability, cultural or LGBTQ biases?	Y / N
Social Dynamics	
Does the student get to avoid difficult social or academic situations by staying away from school?	Y / N
Are transitions difficult for the student? (e.g. entering the school building, moving from class to class)	Y / N
Home Situation	
Do the parents/guardians recognize the importance of and support regular school attendance?	Y / N
Are there problems in the home that contribute to frequent absences? (e.g. parental illness, homelessness, joblessness, child care, needed health or mental health services for parent/caregiver)	Y / N
Health Status	
Are there conditions in the classroom, cafeteria or other school areas that affect the student's health or safety? (e.g. mold or other asthma triggers, animal dander, food allergens)	Y / N
Does the student exhibit anxiety due to separation from parent / caregiver?	Y / N
Does the student require health or mental health-related treatment that interferes with attendance?	Y / N
School Culture	
Are there any clubs, programs or resources during the school day and after school that might help engage the student?	Y / N
Is there a caring adult at the school that could mentor the student?	Y / N
Student Voice	
Has the student identified the reasons for missing school?	Y / N
Parent Voice	
Have you met with the parent/caregiver to discuss attendance concerns?	Y / N
Has the parent/caregiver identified specific barriers to attendance?	Y / N
Are there cultural, language, or other types of barriers that require extra effort on the part of the school to work with the parent/caregiver?	Y / N
Attendance Barriers for Students with Identified Disabilities	
Has the IEP/504 team met recently to review and revise the student's educational plan?	Y / N
Are the instructional and behavioral supports the rights ones?	Y / N



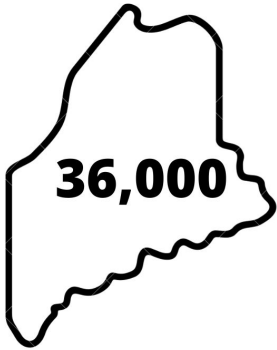
rev. 10/16/19
www.attendanceworks.org



COUNT ME IN!

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Impact



During the 2020–2021,
school year, 36000
students missed more than
3 weeks of school.

**2 Days a Month
=
1 Month of Missed
Instructional Time**



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Interventions

- Implement Early Warning Systems- Identify all students with 10% or more absences, compare absences to previous months & years
- Develop Attendance Plans - If students are at risk of chronic absenteeism, develop individualized attendance plans
- Assign Mentors
 - Builds a relationship with their mentee that motivates showing up to school
 - Can connect, as needed, their mentee and his or her family to supports and services that remove barriers to attendance
 - Reaches out, in partnership with school staff, to engage their mentee's family and deepen their sense of connection to the school community.



Upcoming Trainings

- **August 25th 3pm:** Connecting with Families: Starting off the right foot
- **August 30th 3pm** Attendance Matters: Universal Supports to Encourage Attendance
- **September 1st 3pm** We're So Glad You Are Here: Building a Classroom Community
- **October 4th 3pm** Attendance Matters: Early Interventions
- **Thursday 10/6 and Thursday 10/13 from 12:30-3pm**

Virtual Transforming School Climate & Culture Workshop
(for TEAMS)



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Contact and Feedback

Follow us on social media @countmeinmaine

Email Jess: janderson@countmeinmaine.org

Watch your email for resources and a link to a feedback survey.



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