* Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy in Alameda County:

Implications for Students of Color

L. Karen Monroe

Alameda County Superintendent of Schools

The Big Picture

Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism are *symptoms* of larger, core problems

- * Poverty
- * Student, parent health issues
- * Homelessness, transportation problems
- * Community violence, trauma



BIG Strategies

Address core issues through developmental supports to:

- * Mitigate the effects of poverty
- Connect students with school, and
- * Engage students in learning



BIG Strategies

Truancy Intervention & Prevention Program (TIPP)
Kings County Office of Education

- * Partnerships: DA, Behavioral Health, COE
- * Resources: Prop 63/ MHSA funds
- * Communications: Publications, convenings



Effective Practices

Student Needs Review

- * Regular Review of student performance and attendance data
- Assign staff w/ relationships to follow up
- * Refer to outside agency, social services if needed



ACOE Student Needs Review Panel, 2014



Push Factors of Truancy

Students are truant from school when they feel pushed, alienated, are failing, scared, or are having some kind of bad experience

Address Push Factors through School Climate

* Ensure that your school is a place where students feel safe, engaged and connected to opportunities to succeed

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Pull Factors of Truancy

Students are truant to places and activities that pull them away from school like jobs, family, drugs, hobbies or other things more compelling than school.

Address Pull Factors through relationships supports

* Connect with the student to Identify core issues and refer to outside services for support (healthcare, social work, counseling, etc.)

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Things to Keep in Mind...

- * Expect uneven progress
 - Patterns are long ingrained
- * Keep reaching out and "keep the door open"
- * Make it easy to come back
 - Establish small goals
 - Provide positive reinforcement



Implications on Educational Outcomes for Students of Color

- *Learning loss is compounded over years
- *Correlation between chronic absenteeism and participation in juvenile justice system



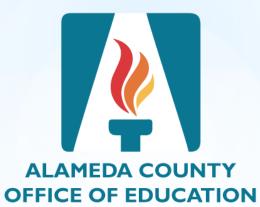
Resources ...

* Every Day Counts Campaign

http://atschool.alcoda.org/files/everydaycounts_generic_2014.pdf

- * ACOE Student Needs Review Process https://vimeo.com/110840901
- * CA Safe and Supportive Schools: Proactive & Inclusive School Discipline Strategies

http://californias3.wested.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief11
_SchoolDiscipline.pdf



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