Supporting 9th Grade Transition

The experience a student has in his/her freshman year of high school can determine the success he/she will have throughout high school and beyond. The National High School Center reports that more students fail ninth grade than any other grade due to failed grades, a lack of course credits or a lack of attendance. This is why it is imperative that we support our students throughout their first year of high school (National High School Centers (2007) Linking Research and Resources for Better High Schools). Furthermore, students who do not have adequate academic preparation are at greatest risk of failing their courses, but even those students who we don’t think might fail can determine the success he/she will have throughout high school and beyond. Increasing student attendance is a top priority and a critical factor to improve academic achievement. We are committed to engaging parents, students, school staff, and community members toward a common vision of graduation for all students.

Tracking Proficient/Advanced Attendance

To maintain 96% or higher attendance, students can miss no more than 1 day for every 25 days of instruction. Here is a breakdown of absences by attendance band for the first 150 days of school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>150th Day of School</th>
<th>FBB (≤93%)</th>
<th>BB (93-95%)</th>
<th>Basic (95-99%)</th>
<th>Proficient (96-99%)</th>
<th>Advanced (100%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 22, 2015</td>
<td>17 or more</td>
<td>11-16</td>
<td>6-10</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: For students enrolled since the first day of school. Go to MyData and click on the At-Risk Attendance Report tab to see attendance achievement by band at your school.

Looking Ahead...The 150th Day of School!

Wednesday, April 22nd, 2015 is the 150th Instructional Day of School for LAUSD. Students with 6 absences or less, who have been enrolled for all 150 instructional days, will promote to the Proficient attendance band on this date. Let’s continue to motivate our students to strive for excellent attendance for the last 30 days of the school year. Check out tools to incentivize students to attend school created by AICs by clicking this link: http://pupilservices.lausd.net/aip-shared-tools.
NEA's Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2nd, the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss. Motivating children to read is an important factor in student achievement and creating lifelong successful readers. Research has shown that children who are motivated and spend more time reading do better in school. To kick off Read Across America Day on Monday March 2, (Dr. Seuss Day), AIC Brandee Brown will be holding a read-a-thon for all 9th grade students at Diego Rivera Green Design Learning Complex High School. For every book that a student reads during the month of March, they will receive a Design Dollar, which can be used to purchase items during the monthly Design Dollar Store. Students who visit the public library and apply for a library card during the Month of March can earn 2 Design Dollars! Visit http://www.seussville.com/Educators/educatorReadAcrossAmerica.php for more information.

Happy Reading Huskies!

Thank you Ms. Brown for supporting student attendance and their love of reading!

Mary Tour, Woodcrest Elementary

With March 2nd being the National Education Association's Read Across America Day, AIC Mary Tour knew the value in promoting the importance of reading throughout the month. Research has shown that children who are motivated to spend more time reading do better in school. To support this program, Ms. Tour started her event on Dr. Seuss' birthday by visiting two different Kindergarten classes to read a Dr. Seuss book to the TK/Kindergarten students. At the end of the story time, a few simple questions about the story were asked, and a few key words were selected from the book to teach them on the sound and the spelling of the words. Lastly, a few prizes were raffled out to all students who came to school that day. Children were excited during the activity. Ms. Tour hopes that this activity helps to inspire their interest in picking up a book to read. To continue motivating the students, she will be reading to two different classes on each Wednesdays throughout the month of March.

Thank you Ms. Tour for all that you do!

Federico Iches

Attendance Improvement Counselor Federico Iches likes to combine two activities in one when it is time for the 150th day of school. This year the 150th day of instruction will be on April 22, 2015 and Easter will be celebrated on April 5th. AIC Federico Iches combines both events into one to make it fun and exciting for the students. He shops at stores like Target and Walmart after Easter is over and purchases all the necessary discounted plastic eggs, chocolates, and toys. Then, on the 150th day of school, he organizes the “Great Attendance Egg Hunt” at the school site. The students love the opportunity to have a second chance to an Easter egg hunt. The students are asked to find and put a specific number of eggs in their basket. This allows for all the students to have an equal chance to find the eggs while fostering cooperative spirit among the students. Who knows, maybe this year, even the Easter Bunny might show up at the event.

Great job Mr. Iches!