

## **Report to the Board-- Year End Attendance Report 2016-2017**

### ***Annual P2 Attendance***

Annual attendance should be 95% or higher based on state targets, which on average is equivalent to students attending 171 of the 180 school days. SBUSD has fallen short of this goal for the past four years, but increased by 0.4% this year to reach an annual attendance rate of 94.6% (Table 1). Seven of ten elementary schools and all three junior high schools met/exceeded the desired target of 95% annual attendance. None of the three traditional high schools met the target, however their rates increased from 2015-2016. This annual attendance rate indicates that while we did see a modest overall increase, we must continue to set goals (district and site) in order to meet the identified target. These goals should be focused on engaging students, educating families around the importance of attendance, and improving systems for addressing student absences.

### ***Truancy Rate***

A student is considered truant when they have three or more *unexcused* absences in a single school year. The truancy rate had increased slightly over the past four years district wide, ending at 25% in 2015-16 (Table 2). The results for 2016-17 are cause for optimism in that the overall truancy rate dropped to 21%. The truancy rates in 2016-17 were decreased for all but one student subgroup. Those subgroups showing improvement included homeless youth (21%), students in Special Education (32%), students Redesignated as Fluent English Proficient (RFEP) (25%), socioeconomically disadvantaged students (26%), Hispanic/Latino students (25%), and Black/African American students (27%). The three traditional high schools showed a significant decline (>5%) in truancy rates. Two of the four junior high schools saw their truancy rates drop more than 3%. Unfortunately, all other schools experienced increased truancy rates in 2016-17.

### ***Chronic Absenteeism Rate***

A student is considered chronically absent when they have missed 10% or more of the school year, whether *excused or unexcused*; this translates to being absent 18 or more full school days in a single school year. Reducing chronic absenteeism has become a recent focus at the state level, as many districts have alarmingly high rates. The chronic absenteeism rate for SBUSD had remained flat the past four years, ending at 17% in 2015-16 for all students (Table 3). The district chronic absenteeism rate dropped to 15% in 2016-17. Further, each subgroup showed decreased rates of chronic absenteeism in 2016-17. Elementary schools showed a slight 0.1% drop in this measure, while our high schools showed a significant drop of 4.6%. Junior high schools saw an overall increase of 1.3% in chronic absenteeism.

### ***Next Steps 2017-18***

In order to meet district and site targets in 2017-18 we must focus on engaging students, educating families around the importance of attendance, and improving

systems for addressing student absences. Several specific actions will be taken in order to achieve these ends:

1. Addition of the Dean of Student Engagement position at the three traditional high schools.
2. Attendance Awareness Campaign for Families-- Fall 2017
3. Improving the use of Attention to Attendance(A2A) and the District Attorney's CLASS program as systems for addressing chronic absenteeism.

**Table 1. SBUSD P-2 Annual Attendance Rate, 2014-15 through 2016-17**

	2014-15	2015-2016	2016-17
All Students	94.4%	94.2%	94.6%

Note: This report shows the annual attendance rate as of P-2 due to its use in funding allocations, excluding charters. It is calculated by dividing the average daily attendance (ADA) as of P-2, by the total enrollment as of the CBEDS/CALPADS Fall 1 Census date.

**Table 2. SBUSD Truancy Rates, Overall and by Student Subgroup, 2014-15 through 2016-17**

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
All Students	25%	25%	21%
Asian	12%	13%	8%
Black/African Am.	29%	34%	27%
Hispanic/Latino	28%	28%	25%
White	21%	21%	15%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged (SED)	28%	28%	26%
Special Education	37%	37%	32%
English Learner (EL)	24%	24%	25%
Reclassified (RFEP)	29%	28%	25%
Homeless/Foster Youth	29%	29%	21%

-Data not available

Note: This end-of-year report shows the percent of students who were reported as being truant at least one time during the academic year. The truancy rate is calculated by dividing the total number of students that were truant as of the last day of school by the cumulative enrollment in the school/district over the academic year. Per Education Code Section 48260, a truant is defined as "a pupil subject to compulsory full-time education or to compulsory continuation education who is absent from

school without a valid excuse three full days in one school year or tardy or absent for more than a 30 minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof, shall be classified as a truant."

**Table 3. SBUSD Chronic Absenteeism Rates, Overall and by Student Subgroup, 2014-15 through 2016-17**

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-2017
All Students	17%	17%	15%
Asian	8%	8%	5%
Black/African Am.	20%	20%	16%
Hispanic/Latino	19%	18%	16%
White	15%	17%	13%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged (SED)	19%	19%	17%
Special Education	29%	28%	26%
English Learner (EL)	17%	17%	16%
Reclassified (RFEP)	15%	15%	14%
Homeless/Foster Youth	19%	19%	18%

-Data not available

Note: This end-of-year report shows the percent of students who were chronically absent during the academic year. Per Education Code Section 48260, chronic absentee means a "pupil who is absent 10 percent or more of the school days ...." The chronic absenteeism rate shown here is currently calculated by dividing the total number of students that were chronically absent by the cumulative enrollment in the school/district over the course of the school year.