

Thriving Schools Strategy Workshop

Student Health & Attendance

Better health, economic, and academic outcomes are linked to student attendance. In fact, school attendance is a significant predictor of high school graduation, which is considered a key driver of success. Unfortunately, approximately 28% of students nationwide – more than 1 in 4 – are chronically absent, missing 10% or more of a school year.

Kaiser Permanente's Thriving Schools initiative works to strengthen the health and well-being of school communities across the country, so every school succeeds, every employee excels, and every child thrives.

Opportunity

Kaiser Permanente is currently piloting no-cost strategy workshops to help school districts improve student attendance. The workshops guide cross-departmental district teams through a process, using relevant data to identify priorities that address the health-related impacts of student absence. The workshop aims to help districts reduce their student chronic absence to pre-pandemic rates. This 2-day in-person event is facilitated by experts and brings together teams from multiple school districts to leverage learnings and maximize results.

Objectives

In the workshops, district teams will:

- Create a shared model/vision for student health and attendance and learn from each other about best practices for improving health and attendance.
- Identify strategic actions across health and attendance initiatives.
- Develop a plan to operationalize alignment between health and attendance teams, goals, and initiatives.



Outcomes

- The workshop provides much needed in-person, cross-departmental worktime.
- Participants are given time and space to consider student chronic absence with health data and to identify priorities.
- The workshop provides opportunities for transparent, cross-district learning to occur.
- Schools benefit from the data review and analysis provided by trusted advisors.

“The workshop was terrific. It provided us with data to review, strategies to think about as well as a networking opportunity with another like-sized school district. It was nice to know that this isn't just [our district's] problem yet that makes it that much more important that we work hard to figure out some solutions.”

-District Participant (Washington)

Follow-up

Thriving Schools can offer ongoing support such as regular check-ins on strategy progress and communication with leadership.

For more information about the Thriving Schools Strategy Workshops, contact Curtis Robbins, curtis.j.robbs@kp.org.