Challenges

The attendance coordinator at Broward County Public Schools takes on tremendous attendance challenges every day. BCPS, the sixth largest school district in the nation, currently has over 30,000 students facing chronic absenteeism issues each year and the attendance coordinator role is to help find ways to combat that problem. Not only has building and managing attendance intervention campaigns posed a challenge for this district but it has also been difficult to pull out meaningful data that will support the implementation of future intervention campaigns that will be impactful on the students.

5 Challenges of K-12 ChronicAbsenteeism Programs for Attendance Coordinators and Schools

- No centralized infrastructure in place to build and manage multiple intervention campaigns that are happening at the same time
- Data surrounding the effectiveness of campaigns is hard to find and not easily accessible to review and share with all stakeholders
- Too many programs available with little training or understanding of how to use the programs to fidelity
- No easy way to align chronic absenteeism program usage with district-wide improvement plan goals
- Student outcome and program utilization data not centralized or available for sharing out with districtwide stakeholders

Solutions

Broward County Public Schools connected with AllHere to see if their product offering could help them organize their attendance campaigns and create a data-driven narrative for the district’s attendance efforts. BCPS needs a software solution that will make the work of their attendance coordinator more efficient, and not more complex, like many of the EdTech products available.

- BCPS found it valuable that AllHere would be able to support the district in analysing the attendance and student data to enable a clearer understanding of the root causes behind their students chronic absenteeism. BCPS also found that AllHere provided the resources to build a sustainable system across the district by providing:
  - Consistent product and technology support throughout the adoption and implementation process
  - Professional development opportunities available to all users
  - The ability to learn which students are at-risk for chronic absenteeism and build intervention campaigns to reach those specific students
  - Impact reports that are simple to read, powerful, and easily accessible
  - The ability to pull up answers to attendance data questions instantly and to show what is working to all district stakeholders
Implementation

Like any large district, BCPS has a long approval process. AllHere has kept in constant contact with staff members at the district to answer any questions in order to help streamline the approval process. The support will continue into implementation of the program and beyond, creating an important partnership between the district and AllHere. AllHere’s thought leaders became a part of the BCPS Attendance Symposium where they host representatives from every school in the district for attendance related training and continue to support the district in learning about new best practices in the field.

Through this partnership, BCPS creates a systematic workflow of implementing, evaluating, and sharing chronic absenteeism intervention programs, focused on student and educator program use which is sustainable across hundreds of schools. BCPS finds that AllHere is scalable across this large a district.

Results

The data that will be generated from within the AllHere platform will help BCPS and the attendance team sustain powerful attendance campaigns. As the district provides workshops to educate staff about effective intervention strategies, they can readily access data and reports, based on the intervention tracking through AllHere that will help to illustrate the effectiveness of the strategies. AllHere will ensure that schools are using research-based interventions and tracking how well each works. Effort and energy can then be put into using the most effective strategies - and the data reports will easily show all stakeholders throughout the district the results.

Typical benefits for a large school district:

- Understand root causes for chronic absenteeism
- Increased attendance and more positive school climate
- Better identification of at-risk students
- Improved interventions with manageable tracking systems
- Easier to generate reports to show legal compliance and due diligence
- Powerful reports to share with all stakeholders

For more information, details, or to set-up your own comprehensive chronic absenteeism intervention management system visit www.AllHere.com.