

Resolution No. ____
_____ Board of Education

Endorsing September 2017 as Attendance Awareness Month

Whereas, the _____ Board of Education value and recognize positive school attendance as a critical element for student success; and

Whereas, good school attendance is essential to pupil achievement and graduation, and systemic approaches are needed to reduce chronic absenteeism rates in California starting as early as preschool; and

Whereas, chronic absenteeism, defined as a student missing ten percent of the school year, or about 18 days a year, is one of the strongest indicators of future dropout; and

Whereas, nationwide, one out of every ten students in kindergarten and first grade are chronically absent; and

Whereas, chronic absenteeism in kindergarten predicts low academic achievement in later grades with research demonstrating that students chronically absent in kindergarten and first grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of third grade; and

Whereas, 75 percent of students who are chronically absent in sixth grade will drop out of high school; and

Whereas, chronic absence is often overlooked because many schools only monitor average daily attendance and truancy rates, both of which can easily mask chronic absence; and

Whereas, California enacted the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), which encourages school districts to track and establish goals and specific actions for reducing chronic absence; and

Whereas, increasing school attendance requires community-wide involvement and begins with an awareness of the cumulative negative effects of chronic absence on academic and social success;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the _____ Board of Education hereby declare the month of September 2017 as Attendance Awareness Month and support activities to increase awareness of the importance of daily attendance, especially in preschool and the early grades.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Passed and Adopted on this
_____ Day of _____ 2017

President

