



# North Hartford Ascend Pipeline

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education

November 30, 2022



North Hartford  
Ascend Pipeline



This meeting is being recorded and the recording will be posted on the Connecticut Children's website.

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# Incentive

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# Agenda

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- Welcome
- Ascend Partner Employment Opportunities
- Community Events
- Ascend Review
- Chronic Absenteeism Discussion
- Breakout Discussion 1
- Report Out
- Breakout Discussion 2
- Report Out
- Next Steps and Closing Remarks

# Employment Opportunities

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CTData Collaborative, State Data Center Coordinator; Senior Statistician

[Join Our Team — CTData](#)

Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development

<https://www.usajobs.gov/job/687149600>

Swift Building Operator, Full Time

[Full Time Building Operator at Community Solutions \(breezy.hr\)](#)

Swift Building Operator, Part Time

[Part Time Building Operator at Community Solutions \(breezy.hr\)](#)

Community Solutions, Hub Manager

[Hub Manager, Northeast Neighborhood Partnership at Community Solutions \(breezy.hr\)](#)

# Employment Opportunities

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Director of Health Initiatives, United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut

[Microsoft Word - Director Health Initiatives 2022\[1\].docx \(unitedwayinc.org\)](#)

Impact and Engagement Manager Economic Mobility, United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut

[Microsoft Word - Impact and Engagement Manager - Economic Mobility 2022.docx \(unitedwayinc.org\)](#)

Senior Manager Impact and Engagement-Health, United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut

[Microsoft Word - Senior Manager Impact and Engagement - Health 2022\[1\].docx \(unitedwayinc.org\)](#)

# Community Event

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THE CT WORLD AIDS DAY COMMITTEE PRESENTS:



**Dec. 1st  
6pm**

**FREE 20MIN RAPID HIV &  
HEPATITIS C SCREENING**

**FREE GIVEAWAYS  
&  
REFRESHMENTS**

Where: Winterfest 2022  
Bushnell Park Pump House & Ice-Skating Rink  
60 Jewel Street, Hartford, CT



EL COMITÉ DEL DÍA MUNDIAL DEL SIDA DE CT PRESENTA:



**1 de Diciembre  
6pm**

**EXAMEN DE DETECCIÓN DE  
VIH Y HEPATITIS C DE 20  
MINUTOS GRATIS**

**OBSEQUIOS  
&  
REFRESCOS GRATIS**

Dónde: Winterfest 2022  
Bushnell Park Pump House & Ice-Skating Rink  
60 Jewel Street, Hartford, CT



**BLACK GIRLS ACHIEVE**

**IS GOING TO**

**AFRICA**



**AGES 13-15**

**JULY 3-10, 2023**

**6 SPOTS AVAILABLE**

**APPLY HERE:**

**[TINYURL.COM/BGAKENYA23](https://tinyurl.com/BGAKENYA23)**

  
**Love Your Menses**  
*Flowing through life, unapologetically!*

**B**lack  
**G**irls  
**A**chieve



# AFT AND FIRST BOOK EVENT

HOSTED BY

**THE HARTFORD FEDERATION OF TEACHERS & HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER

10

AT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR SCHOOL

Event Includes:

25 Ridgefield Street

**BOOK GIVEAWAYS - COMMUNITY PARTNERS - FOOD & DRINKS - FUN ACTIVITIES**

TIME: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM - OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY



**THOUSANDS OF FREE BOOKS for Students!!!**



HFP 2221 PARAEducATORS  
Respect, Serve & Educate



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**THOUSANDS OF FREE BOOKS for Students!!!**

To Volunteer please fill out the form at this website. Please feel free to share this with your colleagues:

<https://forms.gle/UvYmRdohmkbwUvBD7>



## IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most. Each year, **PROJECT: Angel Wings** sponsors children and adults with disabilities, making their Christmas the merriest Christmas ever. Last year was a huge success thanks to our donors, sponsors, community partners, and all of our loving supporters like yourselves... and together, we can do it again this year!

Your donation to **PROJECT: Angel Wings** will have a critical role in changing the lives of families who lost hope. Every donation you make counts towards helping us change the lives of these underserved individuals. **PROJECT: Angel Wings** is dedicated to ensuring no family will go without presents or meals on Christmas morning. Without your generosity and contributions, many of these children won't get to celebrate Christmas this year. You are the hope and connection these families so desperately need, as they give all that they can to stay in the fight, as the impact of Covid continues to devastate the families we serve. Please join us in giving hope back to the children, **BE OUR SANTA TODAY!**

### Here are ways to give/donate:

**Website:** [www.angelofedgewood.org](http://www.angelofedgewood.org)  
**Cash App:** \$AngelofEdgewood  
**PayPal:** @angelofedgewood

### Checks can be mailed to:

Berkshire Bank  
c/o Angel of Edgewood, Inc.  
927 Farmington Ave,  
West Hartford, CT 06107



For more information, or if your organization would like to sponsor a family, please send an email to: [finance@angelofedgewood.org](mailto:finance@angelofedgewood.org) or 224.258.9497 (call/text)

**PROJECT: Angel Wings** is in need of new, unwrapped special needs toys and learning devices (No guns, toys, or video games promoting violence of any kind accepted).



**PROJECT: Angel Wings** is a holiday giving program for low-income families caring for children and adults with disabilities.

**PROJECT: Angel Wings** raises funds to provide Special Needs toys specific to each child's disability. Every child is unique and has different developmental goals. Not only do they have fun with these toys, but they also strengthen their tactile skills and hone their thinking skills.

Our goal is to ease the burdens of parents and caregivers during one of the most stressful times of the year. If you or someone you know would like to apply for sponsorship, applicants must send an email with the following information to: [ProjectAngelWings@AngelofEdgewood.org](mailto:ProjectAngelWings@AngelofEdgewood.org)

- Applicant's full name
- Full address
- Phone number & email Address
- Full Name, age, school of each child
- 2-3 Paragraphs about the disabled child/adult and the families' hardships

**Application Deadline:**  
Friday, December 11, 2022 @ 11:59PM





# 2022



**BHCA is seeking support for our families during the holiday season. Your donations are critical to supporting our neighbors in need**

**21**  
NOV

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

### Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway

Adopt a Weaver family and let's make the holiday a joyful, family affair. Volunteer, donate food baskets and/or donate gift cards.

**16**  
DEC

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

### Attendance Contest Winners Dinner

Sponsor a Weaver student and celebrate our children's achievements.

**22**  
DEC

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

### Gift Giveaway

Help a Weaver student by volunteering your time, providing gifts and/or gift cards. This is the season for giving.

Gift cards are \$25 minimum for individuals and \$50 minimum for families and can be purchased individually or in packs of 4

Please make donations on our website [www.bluehillscivic.org](http://www.bluehillscivic.org) or contact our office for more information

[www.bluehillscivic.org](http://www.bluehillscivic.org) (860) 560-7360  
[bhca@bluehillscivic.org](mailto:bhca@bluehillscivic.org)



# BOOK DRIVE



**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**  
Please consider donating a  
book to the United Way  
Readers program.

For more information on  
United Way Readers, please  
contact: Mark Olynciw at  
[molynciw@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:molynciw@unitedwayinc.org)  
or 860.493.6832.

[unitedwayinc.org](http://unitedwayinc.org)

LIVE UNITED



United Way of Central and  
Northeastern Connecticut

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Our United Way brings people and resources together to find long-term solutions to challenging problems, such as making sure children get the best education possible.

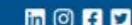
At the end of third grade, school curriculums shift away from teaching reading and increasingly rely on reading skills as a learning tool. Reading on grade-level is a key indicator for graduating high school on time prepared for college or career, increasing a child's opportunity for future success.

United Way Readers is designed to help get children on track by recruiting and supporting volunteers to read one-on-one each week to children identified by their school as struggling readers. With help from our United Way, teachers, schools and school districts, together we support children struggling to read on grade-level.

Scan here to learn more  
about United Way Readers



United Way of Central and  
Northeastern Connecticut

  
[@unitedwayinc](https://www.instagram.com/unitedwayinc)

# North Hartford Ascend Pipeline

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## Why are we here?

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To collaboratively build an integrated and coordinated pipeline of services and supports that helps children and families reach their full potential.

# U.S. DOE Promise Neighborhood Program Results

## Students. . . .

Enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school.

Are proficient in Math and English Language Arts.

Successfully transition from middle to high school.

Graduate from high school.

Obtain post-secondary degrees, certifications, or credentials.

Are supported by families and communities in their learning.

Are healthy.

Feel safe at school and in the community.

Live in stable communities.

Have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century learning tools.

# Promise Neighborhood Program Result



**Result**  
Successfully transition from Middle School to High School



**Promise Neighborhood Program Performance Indicators**

3) Students successfully transition from middle school grades to high school

3.1) Attendance rates of students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade as defined by average daily attendance

3.2) Chronic absenteeism rate of students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades

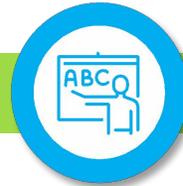


**Current Strategies**

- Parents are engaged
- Students engaged in multi-tiered levels of support
- Students receive in-and-out of school academic supports

Topic:  
Chronic Absenteeism

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# North Hartford Ascend Promise Zone Chronic Absenteeism

Review November 30, 2022



# AGENDA



What is Hartford Public Schools systemic approach to Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism?



What is Chronic Absenteeism?



What does the data show us about Chronic Absenteeism?



What can I do to help?

# DISTRICT MODEL FOR EXCELLENCE Strategic Operating Plan 2021-2024



## Our Mission

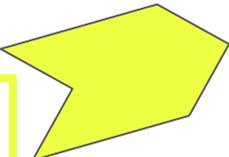
To provide all our students with the learning and supports they need to succeed in school and in life.

## Our Vision

All students will graduate prepared to transform our world.

## Our Major Priorities

1. High Quality Teaching and Learning
2. Welcoming Culture & Nurturing Climate
3. Engaging Family & Community Partnerships
4. Skillful Staff and Effective Operations



**Priority 2**  
Develop robust **systems and supports to promote student engagement** within the community.

**Priority 3**  
Develop and strengthen **partnerships with families and community agencies** to support **academic success and healthy development.**

# Our Journey



2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
<p>High-Quality Data Analysis</p> <p>Build Capacity On Early Warning Indicators</p> <p>Re-define Community School Model</p> <p>December 2017, Superintendent declared Chronic Absenteeism a Crisis</p>	<p>Community Awareness Campaign</p> <p>Systemic Data Literacy And Tools</p> <p>District-level Continuous Improvement Team</p> <p>Target Systemic Barriers</p> <p>Launched Home Visiting Protocol</p> <p>School Engagement Specialist</p> <p>Realigned Family &amp; Community Support Service Provider role</p>	<p>Build On High-leverage Strategies</p> <p>Design Attendance Support Roles</p> <p>Launched 39 Attendance Culture/Climate And Engagement (ACE) Teams</p>	<p>Implement Root Cause Protocols</p> <p>Adapt Tools And Strategies In Response To COVID</p> <p>Shift From Punitive To Preventative</p> <p>Iterate the Home Visiting Protocol</p>	<p>Align Interventions to Root Causes</p> <p>Community Awareness Campaign</p> <p>Expand Student and School Supports</p> <p>Launched Community-facing Attendance Dashboards</p>	<p>District-Wide Attendance Incentives</p> <p>Established a Student Engagement Department</p>

# What is Chronic Absenteeism

The Whole Student



**Chronic Absenteeism (CA)** is defined as missing 10% or more of the academic year for any reason, including excused and unexcused absences, suspensions and time missed due to changing schools.

- Based on a **180 day school year**, that means a student would miss **18 days per year** to be identified as chronically absent.

**Average daily attendance (ADA)** demonstrates how many students on average show up each school day.

# Chronic Absenteeism



## Example:

Samuel's ADA is 83% with 8 *excused absences* and 5 *unexcused* so he is considered chronically absent with a total of 13 absences in March. Although he has 8 excused absences these are still considered absences and add to his total time out of class.

- The excused absences allow us to know root causes and determine next steps for interventions and supports.
- Unexcused absences require us to contact families to determine the nature of the absence in order to decide on an appropriate course of action.



# What is Chronic Absenteeism



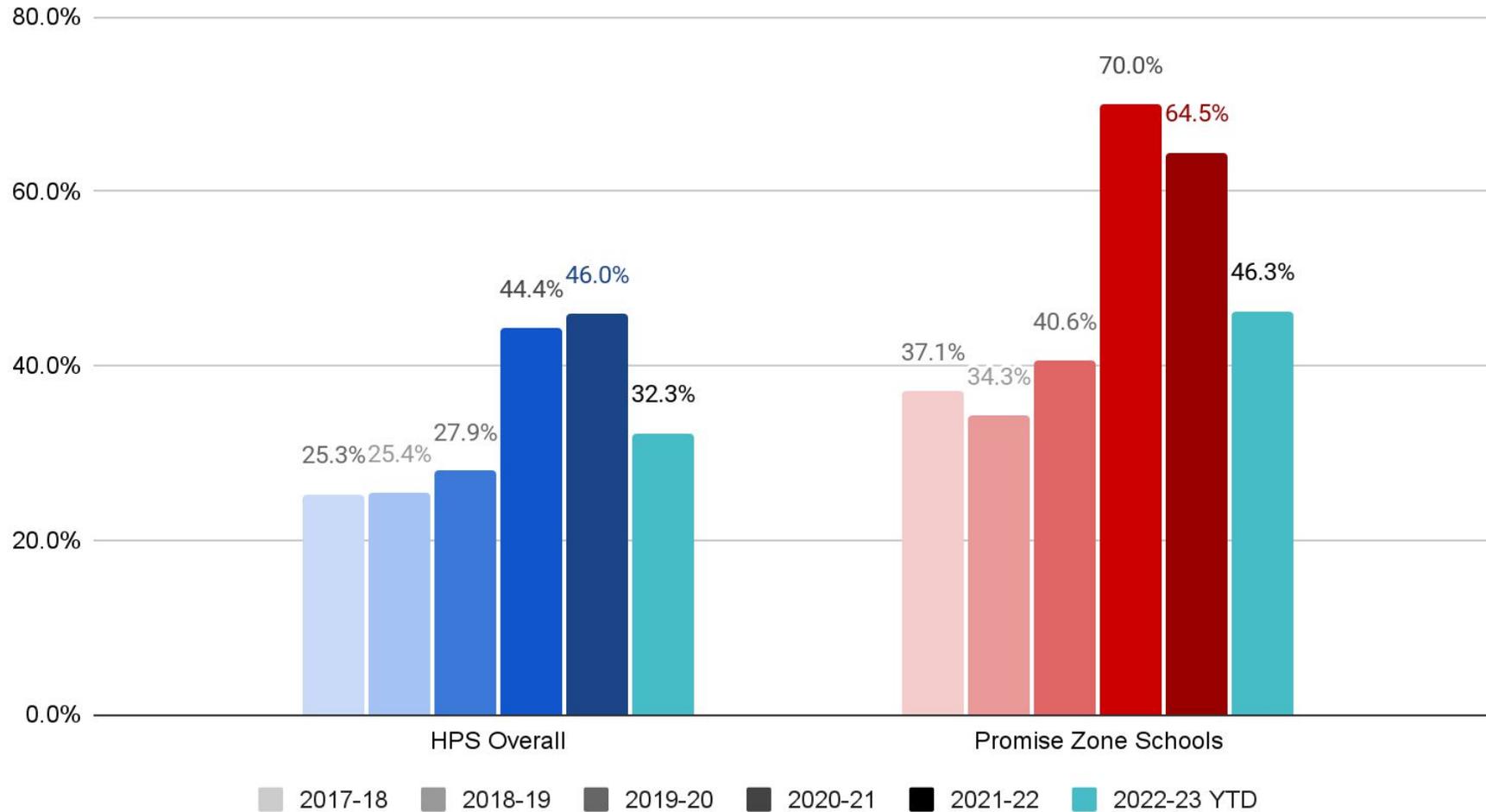
2022-2023 ATTENDANCE TIERS CHART – 180 DAYS OF SCHOOL

DAYS ABSENT BY TIER

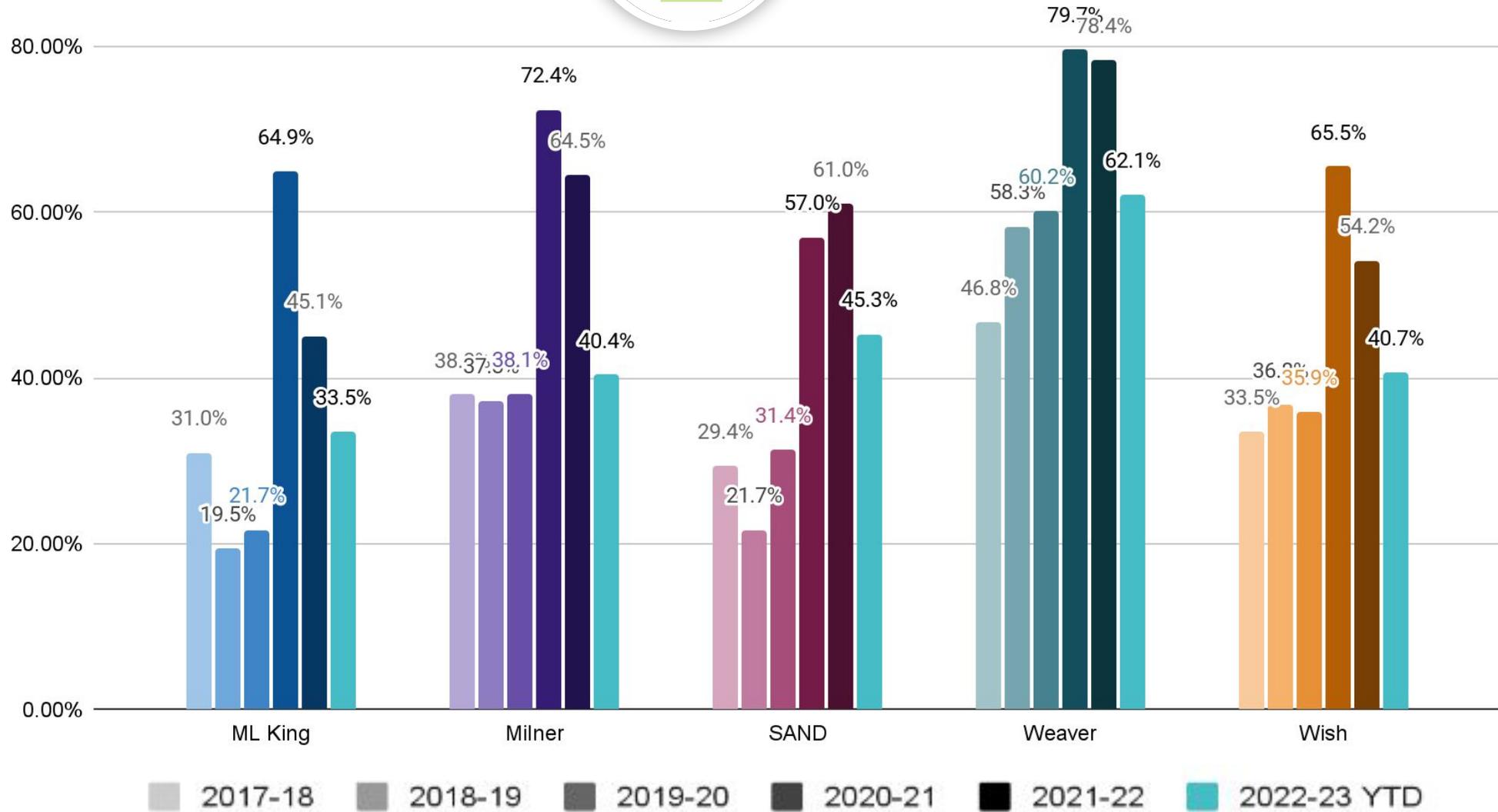
Chronic Absenteeism is a rolling scale calculated off the total number of days in attendance and number of school days presently completed.

Month	Total School Days	Positive Attendance		Chronic Absenteeism	
		Tier 1	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
		On Track - Encourage	At Risk - Check In	Off Track - Recover	Disconnected - Reengage
August	3	0	0	1	-
September	24	0	1-2	3-16	17+
October	44	1	2-4	5-16	17+
November	62	1-2	3-6	7-16	17+
December	79	1-3	4-7	8-16	17+
January	95	1-3	4-9	10-16	17+
February	110	1-4	5-11	12-16	17+
March	133	1-5	6-13	14-16	17+
April	147	1-6	7-14	15-16	17+
May	169	1-6	7-16	16	17+
June	180	1-7	8-17	-	17+

# HPS District and Promise Zone Schools



# Promise Zone Schools



# Attendance (ACE) Root Causes



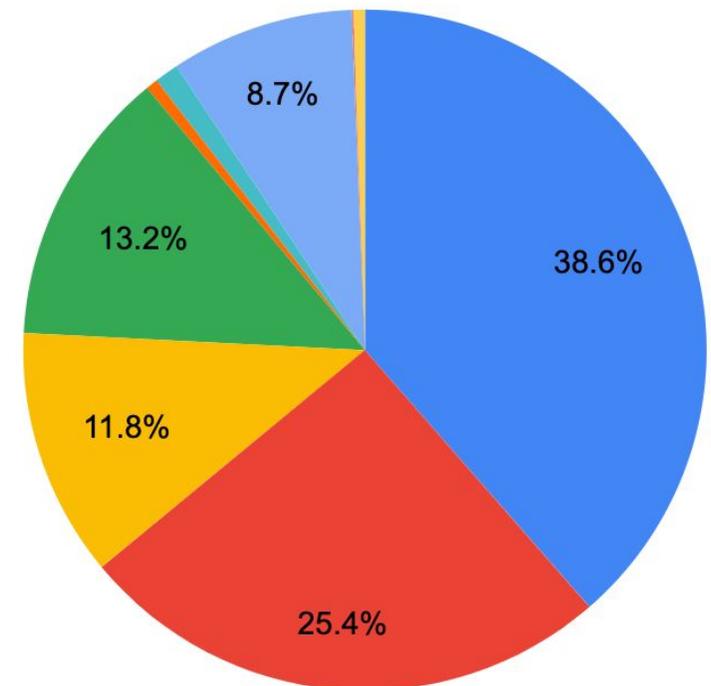
A **root cause** is the core issue—the **highest-level cause**—that sets in motion the entire cause-and-effect reaction that ultimately leads to the problem(s).

## Top 5 Reasons for Absence:

- Illness/Medical
- Medical Appointment
- Out of Country
- Vacation
- Family Emergency

## Root Cause Action Steps

- Phone Calls - Wellness Check
- Parent Communication- Parent Square, Letters, Emails & Outreach
- Home Visit
- PPT/SST/504 Meetings
- Check in at school
- SW support with behavior, contract & SEL
- Referral - 211, YSB, DCF, Outside Agency, McKinney Vento
- Bus Passes
- Dr. Notes



# Attendance (ACE) Strategies



## District

- Summer Bridge
- 6th and 9th Grade Peer Mentors
- Pathways experiences
- March Madness, Dip Days, ACE Olympics
- Video and Visual Contest
- Kindergarten registration
- CBOs providing Bikes and Science Center tickets for attendance
- In home Mental Health Services
- Automated comments in Powerschool
- Quarterly ACE Newsletter
- ACE Brochure
- Home visits
- Engagement and Outreach protocol
- Talk Tuesday
- Resolving barriers around transportation, enrollment, childcare, etc.
- Intensive case management around homelessness, chronic illness, mental health and domestic violence
- Monitor attendance data and school based practices
- Develop programmatic responses to barriers

## School

- School incentives (Pie the Principal, Dress down, Movie and Popcorn, etc.)
- Recognizing good and improved attendance
- Engaging school community and climate (greet families at drop off, educators take on caring role, culturally responsive practices)
- Strong communication practices (consistent follow-up from all adults after a student is out)
- Community members wishing students a good day, asking about their day, calling when a student is out
- Weekly ACE team meetings that focus on Tier 2 students
- Meaningful data collection
- Student support team meetings
- Individualized attendance plans
- Resolving barriers around programming, arrival, behaviors, mental health, etc.
- Identifying a mentor or caring adult
- Intensive case management around homelessness, chronic illness, mental health, domestic violence and bullying
- Provide personalized outreach

# Ground Rules for Breakouts

- Everyone deserves to be heard and everyone should have an opportunity to speak.
  - Online: Keep your camera on (if possible), and keep your mic muted unless you are speaking.
- Listen and respond respectfully.
- Stick to the question – time is limited, so let's value each other's time.
- Respect each other's privacy – keep personal stories in the group.
- Successful dialogue is the responsibility of all participants
- Is there anything we need to add?

## Breakout Groups/Rooms



**Do you know of  
any other barriers  
and opportunities  
we haven't  
captured?**



# Breakout Session 1

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# Report Out 1

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## Breakout Groups/Rooms



What is the role of community members in increasing attendance?



What can we do to increase attendance and reduce chronic absenteeism?



# Breakout Session 2

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# Report Out 2

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# Questions



# Thank You!

- **Upcoming meetings:**  
Wednesday, January 18, 2023
- An incentive is available to Hartford community members participating in this meeting.
  - The link is posted in the chat and will be sent out via email.
- Please take the Post Meeting Survey to share your thoughts and feedback.
  - The link is posted in the chat and will be sent out via email.

Contact Ally McGinty, [amcginty@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:amcginty@unitedwayinc.org) with any questions.