

Strategic Goal 3:

TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND SECURE
ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS AND
EMPLOYEES

Objective A:

Truancy

Report Date:

August 3, 2011

Truancy

Any child subject to compulsory attendance who during the school calendar year has more than five (5) days of unexcused absences is considered truant.

Per policy JBA, the following are excused absences: personal illness, serious illness or death of a student's immediate family member, observance of religious holidays, active duty military family leave, orders of governmental agencies, conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety, or participation in approved school activities.

An absence for any reason other than one defined above, would be considered unexcused.

Compulsory attendance applies to a child between their sixth and sixteenth birthday.

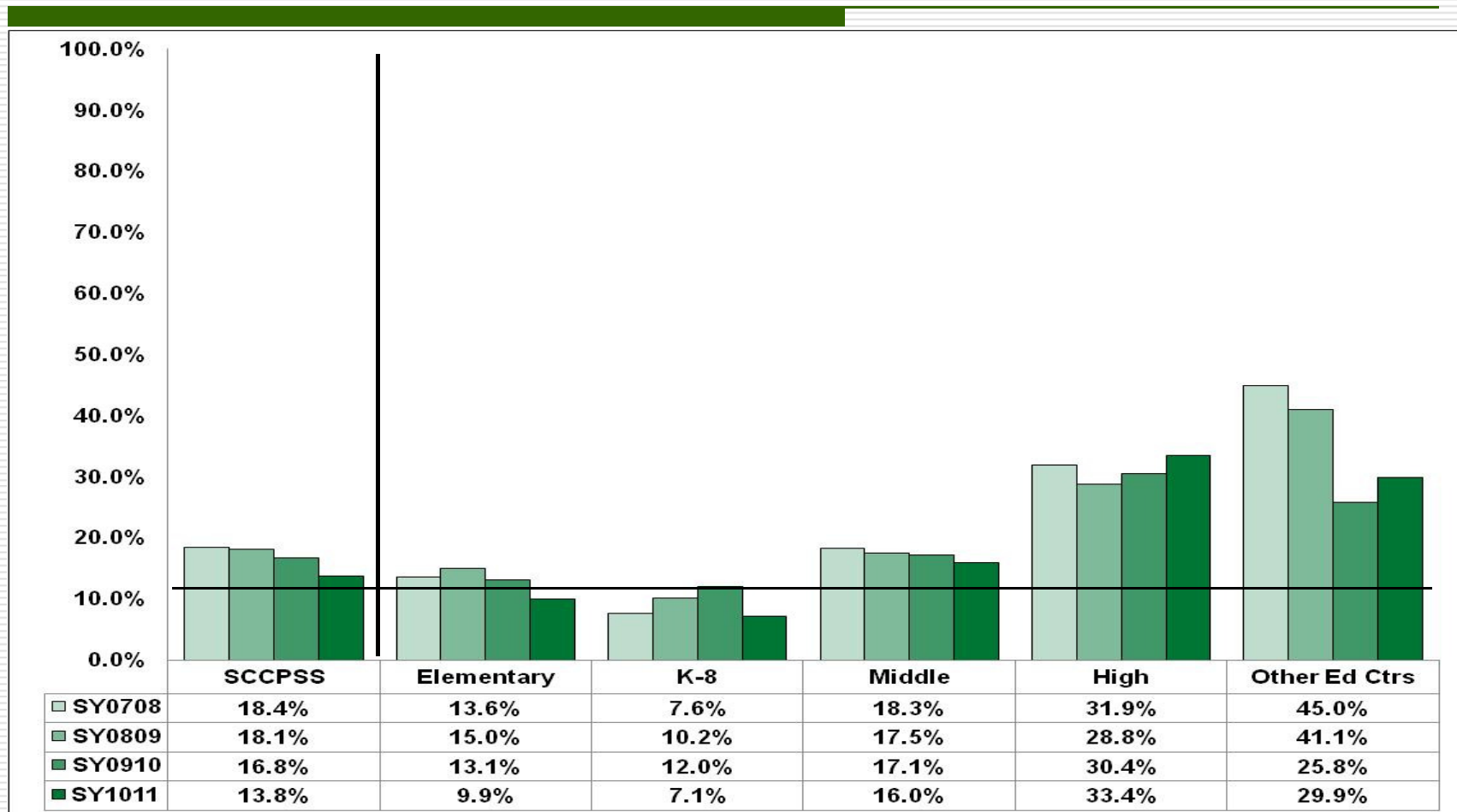
Objective, Baseline & Target

Objective: To improve attendance of all compulsory age students.

Baseline: SY 2007-2008: 18.4 percent of compulsory attendance age students were truant.

Target: By 2012, the truancy rate will be less than 12.1 percent of compulsory attendance age students.

Percentage of Truancy by Level



— 2012 Target

(Other Ed Centers include Coastal Academy, Scott, Corporate Academy, and Early College)

Truancy Counts by School

Elementary Schools							
School	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent	School	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent
Bartow	722	144	19.9%	Low	527	63	12.0%
Bloomingtondale	421	24	5.7%	Marshpoint	793	33	4.2%
Butler	579	25	4.3%	Pooler	406	50	12.3%
CEMCO	92	9	9.8%	Pt. Wentworth	476	12	2.5%
Gadsden	545	57	10.5%	Pulaski	517	52	10.1%
Garden City	626	136	21.7%	Shuman	689	85	12.3%
Gould	788	97	12.3%	Southwest	754	32	4.2%
Haven	441	56	12.7%	Spencer	462	2	0.4%
Heard	462	35	7.6%	Thunderbolt	348	28	8.0%
Hodge	398	74	18.6%	West Chatham	707	29	4.1%
Howard	701	62	8.8%	White Bluff	615	55	8.9%
J. G. Smith	328	9	2.7%	Windsor Forest	566	67	11.8%
Largo-Tibet	632	37	5.9%				

*Enrollment/Student Count refers to compulsory age and is unique to schools, may be duplicated among schools, and takes into account active and inactive students.

Truancy Counts by School

K-8 Schools			
School	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent
East Broad	616	148	24.0%
Ellis	459	33	7.2%
Garrison	635	57	9.0%
Georgetown	534	19	3.6%
Godley Station	1254	26	2.1%
Hesse	789	46	5.8%
Isle of Hope	592	13	2.2%

Middle Schools			
School	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent
Bartlett	1052	206	19.6%
Coastal	771	123	16.0%
DeRenne	802	185	23.1%
Hubert	664	75	11.3%
Mercer	767	137	17.9%
Myers	669	78	11.7%
Oglethorpe	422	22	5.2%
Southwest	814	147	18.1%
West Chatham	1163	126	10.8%

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Truancy Counts by School

High Schools			
School	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent
Beach	425	153	36.0%
Gateway to College	***	***	***
Groves	605	260	43.0%
Islands	300	86	28.7%
Jenkins	540	110	20.4%
Johnson	432	142	32.9%
Savannah Arts	353	164	46.5%
School of Law/Criminal Justice	93	26	28.0%
School of Liberal Studies	241	132	54.8%
Windsor Forest	613	97	15.8%

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***<10 students

Truancy Counts by School

Other Education Centers			
School	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent
Costal Georgia CA**	173	36	20.8%
Corporate Academy	***	***	****
Early College	112	22	19.6%
Scott L. C.	538	189	35.1%

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**Coastal Georgia CA services students from Chatham, Effingham and Bryan Counties

*** < 10 students

Truancy Counts by Subgroup

Gender Subgroup	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent
Male	15,274	2,131	14.0%
Female	14,756	2,000	13.6%
Total	30,030	4131	13.8%
Race Subgroup	Enrollment*	Student Count*	Percent
Asian	585	21	3.6%
Black	17,554	2,503	14.3%
Hispanic	1,553	178	11.5%
American Indian	60	11	18.3%
Multi-Racial	2,135	298	14.0%
Pacific Islander	33	4	12.1%
White	8,110	1,116	13.8%
Total	30,030	4131	13.8%

District level report - unduplicated count

*Enrollment/Student Count refers to compulsory age and takes into account active and inactive students.

Action Items

- ❑ Involve students and parents in weekly attendance meetings.
- ❑ Continue to conduct meetings twice a year with the judicial staff to review our protocols and facilitate compliance.
- ❑ Receive assistance from the DA's office to ensure compliance with the compulsory attendance law.
- ❑ Staff from the DA's office will attend meetings as needed at the schools.
- ❑ School social workers will continue to make home visits and appropriate social service referrals.

Story Behind the Numbers

After careful review of our truancy data, we have made some changes. These changes include:

- ❑ Training of our Information Specialist who enter the data in Power School.
- ❑ Training all staff on the new truancy reduction protocol.
- ❑ Educating all stakeholders (internal and external, to include students and parents) about the compulsory attendance law.

These changes have helped reduce our truancy rate.

Questions?

**DISTRICT
ACCOUNTABILITY
SYSTEM**



Truancy Criteria

The reporting criteria for truancy counts students that

- Are age 6 to 15 as of September 1st
- Are active or inactive (to cover transferred students)
- Have 6 or more unexcused absences

School enrollment is compulsory age enrollment, not total student enrollment; a student may count more than once at multiple sites.

School student count is defined per school and not by district; student may count more than once at multiple sites.

District level enrollment and student counts are unduplicated.