



Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee

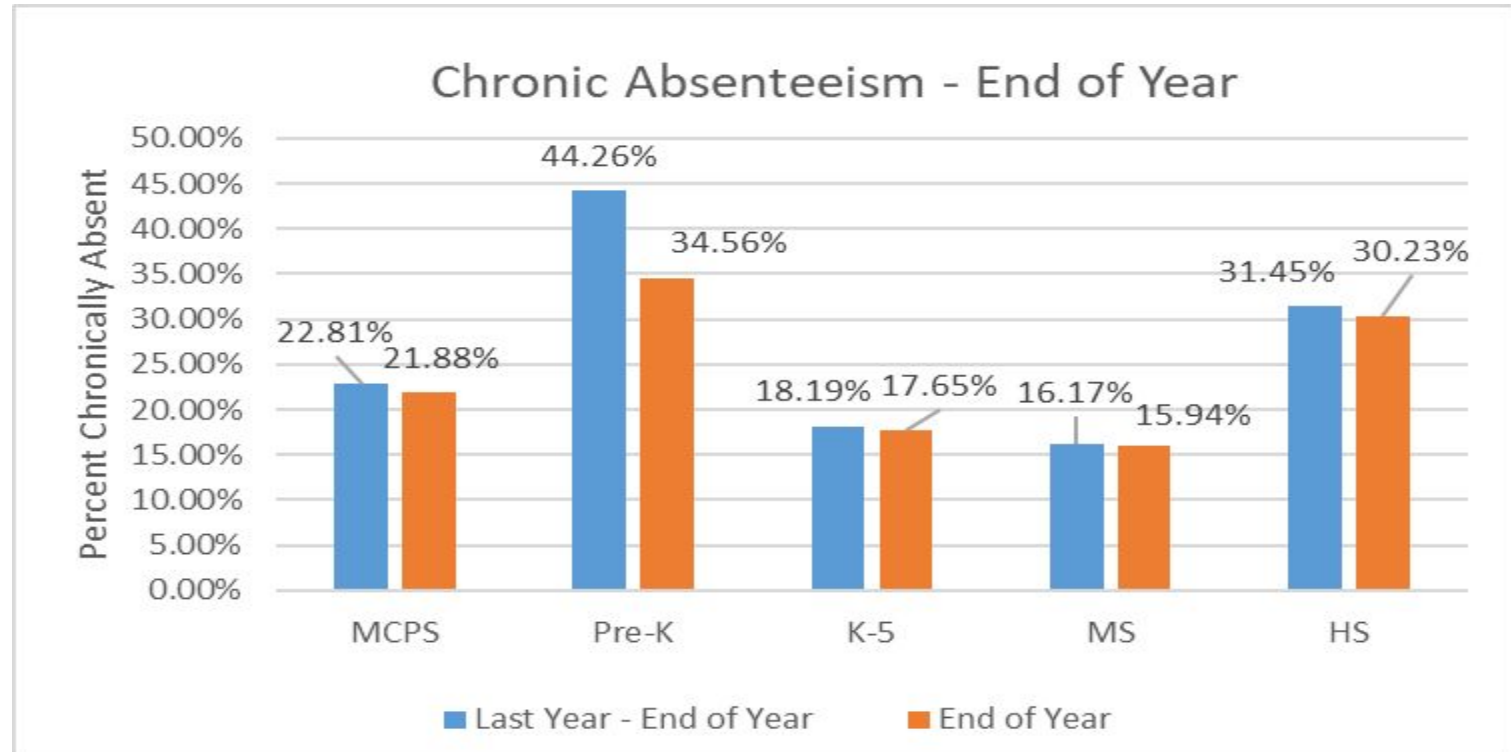
Attendance/Chronic Absenteeism

September 9, 2025

Steve Neff, Director

Student Support and Attendance Services

Attendance Data



End-of-Year Impact

Day Reviewed	Total Number of Chronically Absent Students	MCPS Chronic Absenteeism Rate	Reduction from Last Year, Same Time
6/13 (following last FULL day of instruction)	32,475	20.32%	-1.82%
6/16 (after 6/13 HALF day)	33,018	20.66%	-1.67%
6/17 (after 6/13 and 6/16 HALF days)	34,025	21.29%	-1.27%
6/18 (after 6/13, 6/16, and 6/17 HALF days)	34,936	21.86%	-0.95%
	Net increase in chronically absent students = 2,461	Net increase in chronic absenteeism percentage = 1.54%	Net <u>decrease</u> in chronic absenteeism <u>reduction</u> = 0.87%

Suspension Data

Race and Ethnicity	# of Suspensions	Percent of Suspensions	Total Population 2024-2025	Suspension Rate
American Indian	8	0.3%	Less than 5%	----
Asian	96	3.1%	21,689	0.44%
Black/African American	1316	42.2%	34, 294	3.8%
Hispanic/Latino	1210	38.8%	56, 716	2.1%
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	--	--	Less than 5%	----
White	346	11.1%	37,503	0.92%
Two or More	139	4.5%	6,016	2.3%
ALL	3115	100%	159182	1.96%

MCPS Comprehensive Approach to Attendance

- Positive messaging about the importance of attendance
- Early and supportive outreach
- Monitoring and analysis of real time attendance data
- Root cause analysis – Student Well-Being Teams

Punitive Approach?

- Education Week:
“Schools have also found that it’s best to avoid punitive approaches to absenteeism, like threatening legal action against families or sending students to detention for high numbers of absences, as that has been shown to further damage families’ connections to school and staff members.”

Community Engagement

- MCPS Contacts
 - Local Schools
 - Steve Neff - 240-740-5620
 - AskMCPS - 240-740-3000
- Community Resources

[MCPS Community Resource Guide](#)

Questions?