

Attendance Action Plan: Implementation Update

Presentation to the SCYPT

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Mary Ann Panarelli, FCPS

Jesse Ellis, Neighborhood & Community Services

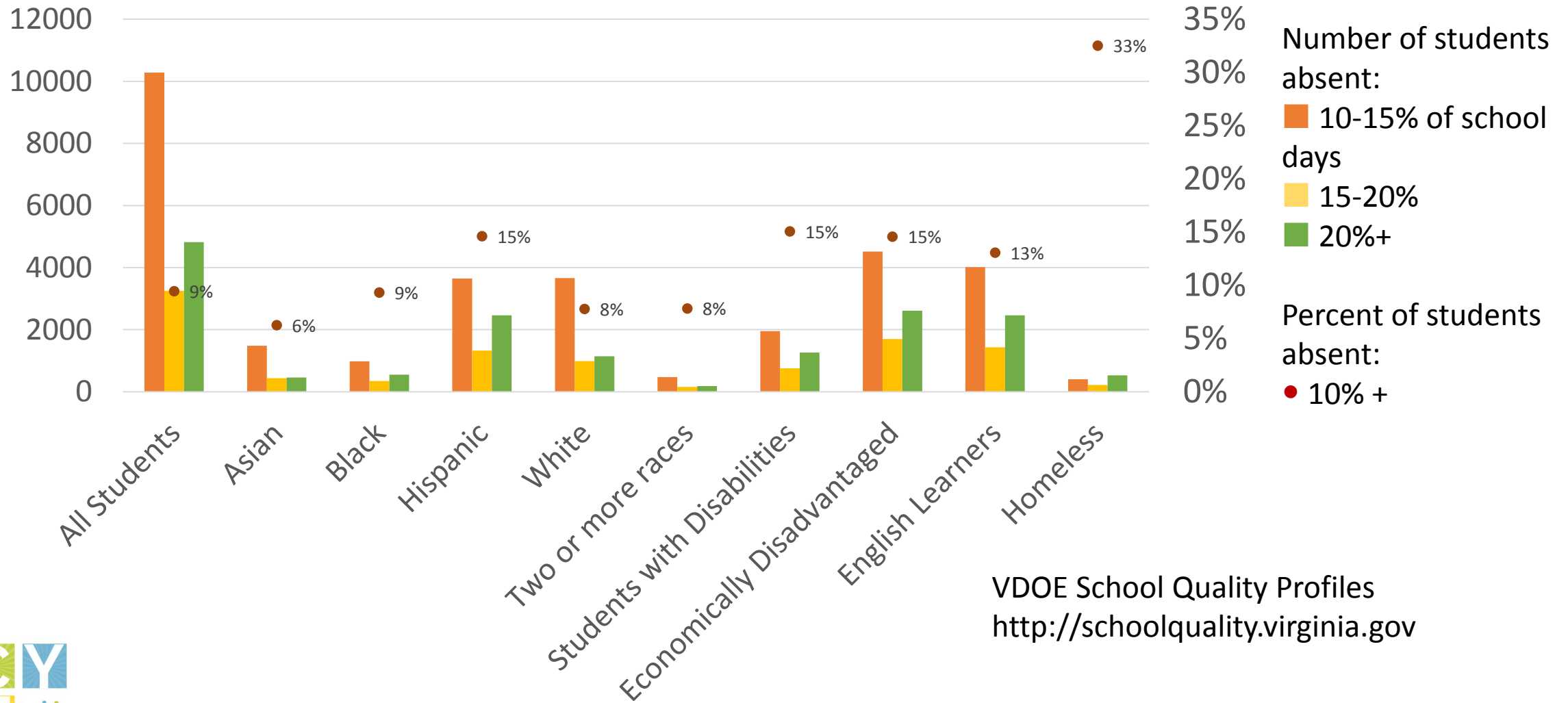


THE FAIRFAX COUNTY SUCCESSFUL
CHILDREN AND YOUTH POLICY TEAM

Background and Need

- In 2015, the SCYPT endorsed the School Attendance Action Plan.
- Implementation began immediately.
- Today, we provide an update on implementation and next steps, and ask SCYPT for support in specific areas.

Chronic Absenteeism: FCPS, SY 2016-17



VDOE School Quality Profiles
<http://schoolquality.virginia.gov>

Action Plan Overview

- *Goal 1.* Ensure a positive school climate, flexible instructional approaches, and supportive services to encourage school attendance and engagement.
- *Goal 2.* Closely monitor absenteeism and student behavior to enable early detection and intervention.
- *Goal 3.* Involve families, school staff, community service providers, and other key stakeholders in service planning and monitoring.
- *Goal 4.* Develop tiered school- and community-based responses that prioritize comprehensive supportive services and reduce punishments.

Goal 1 Implementation Highlights

- *Absences Add Up* campaign. (fcps.edu/attendance)
 - Website
 - Print materials targeted to various audiences
 - Video
 - Infographics and social media materials
- Accessible policies and procedures
 - Website
 - Principal communications

Goal 1 Implementation Highlights

- School engagement improvements
 - Return to Learn protocol
 - Strategies to promote availability of Career and Technical Education and other non-traditional school programs
 - Project-Based Learning and other out-of-school time connections to the school curriculum

Goal 1 Implementation: SCYPT's Role

- Help promote the Absences Add Up campaign
- Help connect students and families to non-traditional school programs
- Engage businesses in developing and implementing strategies to promote school attendance

Goal 2 Implementation Highlights

- Data improvements
 - Attendance data (with automatic flags for tiers of intervention) in FCPS data systems
 - Regulation revision: clarity on excused/unexcused absences
 - Standardized automated messages to parents
 - Data review incorporated into Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
 - Central office support for schools with highest absenteeism rates
- Revised position roles
 - School Probation Officers implementing Check and Connect
 - Attendance Officer positions being changed to Attendance Specialist positions

Goal 3 Implementation Highlights

- General information sharing
 - Collaboratives (e.g., Opportunity Neighborhoods, Regional Change Teams)
 - Materials for family organizations

Goal 3 Implementation: SCYPT's Role

- Support efforts to promote and facilitate student-level information sharing

Goal 4 Implementation Highlights

- Resource/service connections
 - Healthy Minds Fairfax/FCPS resource guide development
- Legislation
 - Proposed legislation easing requirements to file a petition
- Tiered system of interventions
 - School toolkits
 - Check and Connect expansions
 - Other pilots being considered

Goal 4 Implementation: SCYPT's Role

- Support HB 1485 and SB 841
- Support efforts to improve assessment, referral, and service access

Recommendations for SCYPT Endorsement

- Ensure key partners, including SCYPT members where applicable, are involved on the workgroups:
 - One focused on engaging the business community to help increase school engagement and attendance;
 - One focused on expanding the awareness campaign through community-based partners, County agencies, and other stakeholders; and
 - One focused on strengthening pro-attendance interventions, referrals, and information sharing among FCPS and community and County partners.
- Support HB 1485 and SB 841.

Contact Information

Mary Ann Panarelli

Director

FCPS Intervention and Prevention Services

mmpanarelli@fcps.edu

Jesse Ellis

Prevention Manager

Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services

jesse.ellis@fairfaxcounty.gov