



# MECAC 2019/2020

Thursday, August 29, 2019



# Agenda

- Welcome/Good Things
- Defining Equity
- Attendance
- A Community's Response
- Empowerment Vitamin
- Announcements





# Tell us about Equity



# What is Equity?

- Differentiated support to address different needs that students might have.
- An approach to practice that counters oppressive systems, policies, structures, and practices that create or exacerbate disparities in education for non-dominant students.
- Resources can mean different things, including teacher quality, class size, safe and well-maintained school environments with the capacity to accommodate various technology needs, technology, curriculum materials, advanced courses, funding, and differentiated supports for family engagement.
- Equity is free from bias and pursued with intention.
- Three dimensions: distributive, procedural, and contextual equity.
- This narrow scope of equity leaves out important populations that need protection and support.
- Community voice – families, students, teachers, and administrators.





# Let's Talk Attendance

- Attendance
- Performance
- Safety



# Attendance: What does it mean?

- Attendance
  - What is satisfactory?
- Absenteeism
  - What is a warning sign?
  - What is considered chronic absenteeism?



# Attendance

- ASD's Attendance Goal is that 90% of students will attend school 90+% of the time.
- School attendance is attendance at any regular educational institution for organized learning at any level of education during the school year.



# Absenteeism

- Missing school for preventable reasons
- Chronic – missing 10 percent of the time (about 18 days)





# Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism is widespread—about one out of every six students missed three weeks or more of school in 2015-16. That translates to more than 100 million school days lost. Research suggests the reasons for chronic absenteeism are as varied as the challenges our students and families face—including poor health, limited transportation, and a lack of safety — which can be particularly acute in disadvantaged communities and areas of poverty.



# Chronic Absenteeism

Whatever its causes, chronic absenteeism can be devastating:

- Chronic absenteeism may prevent children from reaching early learning milestones.
- Irregular attendance can be a better predictor of whether students will drop out before graduation than test scores.
- Frequent absences from school can shape adulthood.





# Thoughts from schools...





# Table Talk

- Work with the people at your table to find 3 solutions/action items to address absenteeism.
- Things to consider:
  - Efforts within schools
  - Cultural response/communication
  - Barriers to ambassadorship for attendance
  - Engaging your sphere of influence





# Empowerment Vitamin







Thank you!

