



Prince George's County

TRUANCY STUDY WORKGROUP

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Minutes

- CM Oriadha opened the meeting at 3:00 PM and reminded the group of the purpose of the Workgroup and the expectation for final recommendations from all stakeholders.
- Workgroup members approved the minutes from the prior meeting.
- Workgroup members discussed some of the recommendations that were proffered prior to the meeting:
 - 1. Creating an attendance monitoring system
 - 2. Parental engagement workshops
 - 3. Incentive programs for students
 - 4. School attendance teams (SATs)
 - 5. Home visits for chronic truancy
 - 6. Community partnerships
 - 7. Flexible scheduling and online learning options
 - 8. Mentorship programs
 - 9. School-based mental health services
 - 10. Attendance awareness campaigns
- Each recommendation has an associated timeframe for implementation, cost estimate, impact, and description.
- PGCPs noted that some of the recommendations are already in different formats.
 - The attendance monitoring system exists, and who can see the data varies from school to school and on the individual case.
- Workgroup members expanded on parental engagement workshops by emphasizing the need for these to be holistic of the needs of parents and students:
 - Existing barriers to transportation.
 - Need for resource incentives.

- Virtual or hybrid workshops for accessibility.
 - Translators needed for non-English speakers.
 - Childcare may be needed for parents.
 - Focus on inclusive meetings without judgment.
- Under incentive programs, members discussed the need for additional support for truant students:
 - Tutoring services so they can catch up on missed work.
 - PGCPs noted that partnerships with universities, peers, and others for tutoring exist.
- Donna Christy noted that the aim should not be to go from truant to perfect attendance but rather incremental improvements in attendance over time.
- Members suggested increased home visits for truant students; however, others noted personnel issues with having two staff visiting the homes of each truant student.
- Members discussed increasing community partnerships to curb truancy. A question arose on how to measure the success of a community school in meeting the needs of students and the community.
- Members noted the need for flexible scheduling and online learning opportunities.
 - PGCPs noted that there is an online school option for some students and evening classes for catch up of missed materials.
- Members remarked on the need to better understand school-based mental health services, including researching to understand schools that have social workers and the associated cost and a recommended ratio.