

# Intradistrict Communication

DATE: January 13, 2025

TO: Principals and Assistant Principals

FROM: Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent  
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SUBJECT: January Attendance Newsletter & Martin Luther King, Jr. School Recess Resources

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## January 2025 Attendance Newsletter

Welcome back to school and to the start of a fresh new year! As we head into the second half of the school year it is important to keep momentum with attendance going. New year often equals new goals. We can encourage students and families to make goals surrounding attendance. Included you will find helpful information for your school to use and information to distribute to families in an effort to boost attendance during the winter months.

## Winter Messaging Toolkit- Supporting Attendance, Engagement & Learning

Winter is upon us and with it comes inclement weather. Bad weather can impact attendance, making it even harder for some students to get to school. Illnesses tend to increase in the winter months. Add to these other barriers families may be facing and attendance can become a big issue. These compounding issues make it even more important for us to communicate with families the importance of learning and working together with them to help them overcome challenges they may be facing. Included are some tools and resources schools can share with families to help parents/caregivers keep their children healthy and in school.

- Resources for communicating with families-
  - Parent flyer in [English/Spanish](#)
  - Sample letter [English/Spanish](#)
- Resources for [Schools](#)

## What's New: Resource Roundup-

New research and reference articles highlighting attendance:

- [Ad Council Research](#)-Understanding families' relationships with and feelings about their children's schools can shed light on some root causes of absenteeism. This is often an overlooked aspect. A September 2024 study from the Ad Council Research Institute reveals families' perceptions of school.
- [Schools and Families: Unite to Get Students Back into the Attendance Habit](#)
- [10 Facts about Attendance – Attendance Works](#)

## Success Stories with Attendance

It is important in attendance work to focus on and celebrate successes. The following is a success story from another district in the state.

- One of the action steps **Ogden School District** is focusing on is using data to identify groups of students who they are able to impact related to attendance. Specific schools are piloting a "Moveable Middle" meeting where

collaborative teams meet to review attendance data every 4-6 weeks. Parents/guardians are sent specific messaging based on data criteria sharing the impact of attendance and progress being made with the student's specific rate of attendance. At one of their schools, the team has identified a 10% improvement in the target students based on mid-term and term attendance rates. This is not only with the group identified in the "Moveable Middle" meetings but also in other subgroups.

**If you have success stories with attendance at your school, please share with Michelle Reyes, [michelle.reyes@jordandistrict.org](mailto:michelle.reyes@jordandistrict.org).**

## Upcoming Attendance Training Opportunities

### 1. USBE Attendance Webinars-

The Utah State Board of Education will be hosting attendance webinars throughout the year.

- The first webinar was on January 14, 2025.
- Watch for links to future webinars.

### 2. Learning with Attendance Works

- [3 Session Professional Learning Series](#) to help schools and educators learn proven, evidence-based tiered strategies using a team approach.
  - Two sessions available for registration the first beginning on January 21, 2025.
  - Registration is required. There is a cost to attend.

## Martin Luther King Jr./Grade Transmittal School Recess Resources



### English-

Martin Luther King Jr./Grade Transmittal Recess Reminder

[Facebook Post](#)

[Instagram Post](#)

### Spanish-

Martin Luther King Jr./Grade Transmittal Recess Reminder

[Facebook Post](#)

[Instagram Post](#)

Questions? Contact Michelle Reyes at [michelle.reyes@jordandistrict.org](mailto:michelle.reyes@jordandistrict.org) or 801-567-8205.