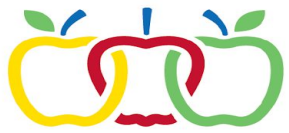


AASD Attendance Update

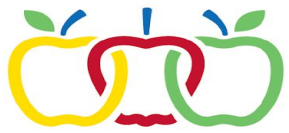
**City of Appleton
Safety and Licensing Meeting
March 25, 2026**





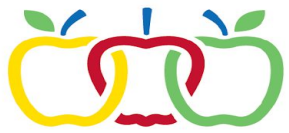
Attendance - 1st Semester 2025-2026

- Lowest high school chronic absenteeism rate since 2018-2019 (22.3%)
- Lowest habitual truancy rate in more than 12 semesters dating back to before the pandemic (23.1%)



Attendance - 1st Semester 2025-2026

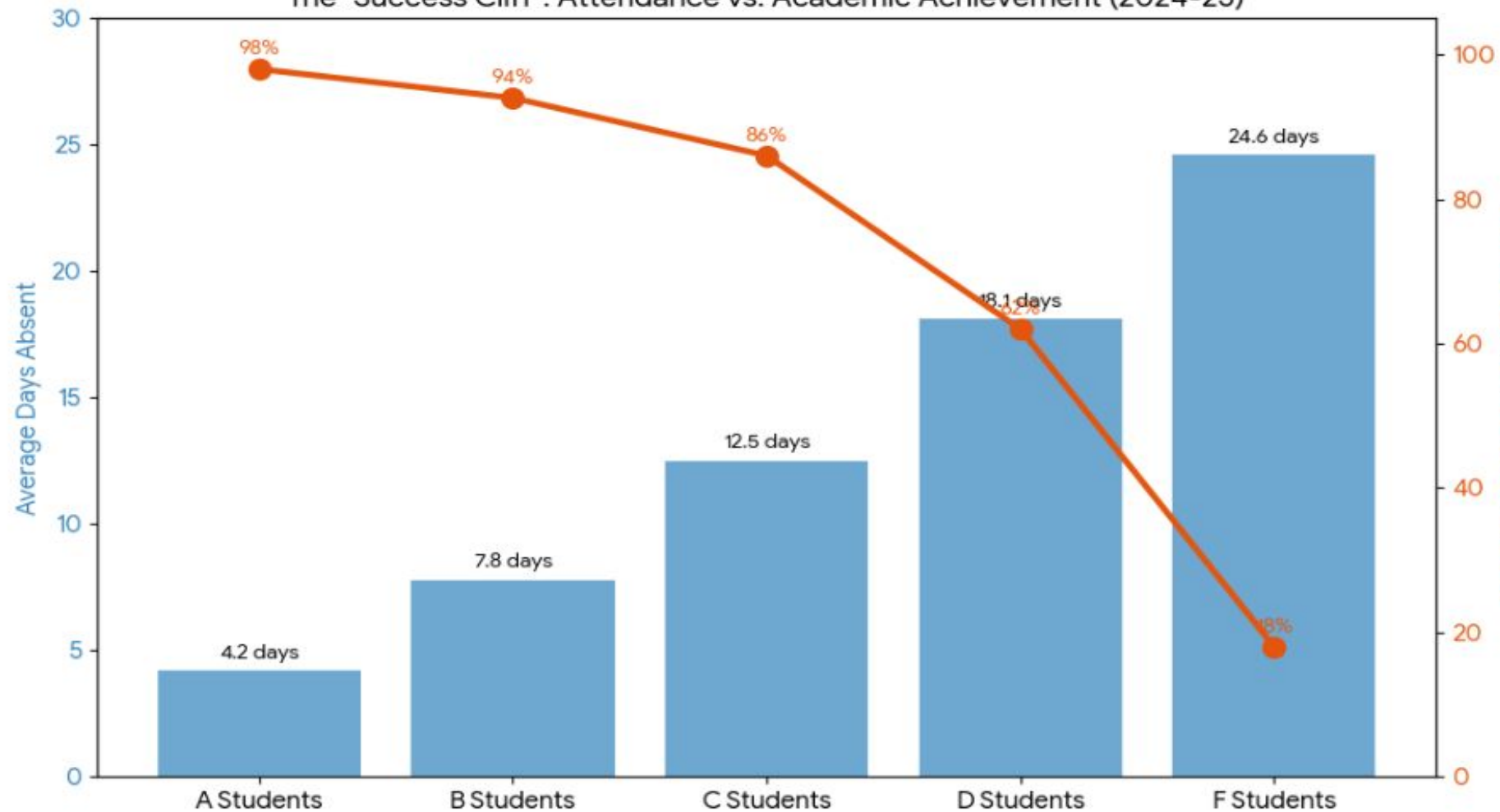
- 409 students participated in an Attendance Education Lesson
- 187 of those students improved their attendance



Academic Success - 1st Semester 2025-2026

- 95.35% of all classes taken were passed
- Highest passing rate in 9 semesters
- The previous 8 semesters averaged 93.86%
- The difference resulted in over 400 more classes passed

The "Success Cliff": Attendance vs. Academic Achievement (2024-25)

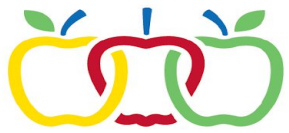




Council requirements from Resolution #3-R-25:

Develop and enforce a policy of internal supports and tools which will be uniformly applied to all students with truancy and chronic absenteeism issues.

AASD attendance policy was revised in October of 2025 to respond to the language above. The policy will be further revised and approved by the AASD Board of Education in April.



Council Requirements:

Ensure said policy will include enforcement of this truancy ordinance to be used as a final measure should other support be unsuccessful with a student.

AASD attendance policy includes the following language, “A student will be considered for referral to the City of Appleton for a truancy ordinance violation if and when the following conditions are met:” Six conditions are then listed, including the statement “intervention efforts have failed to improve a student’s attendance and the student is unwilling to engage in further interventions.”



Council Requirements:

Provide evidence of the supports that the district has offered to students with attendance issues before any court dispositions for truancy are levied upon a student. These include but are not limited to:

- Number of truancy citations issue in the past semester: **1**
- Number of truancy citations from prior semesters eventually expunged due to student compliance: **0**
- Number of truancy citation convictions from previous semesters (including the dispositions that were applied): **0**
- Updated absentee and truancy rate numbers for the previous semester: **Numbers were presented during January S & L meeting**



Continued:

- Data should be provided in alignment with DPI reporting: for example: grade level, school, race/ethnicity, gender, disability status, economic status, EL status: **NA**
- Track the counseling, supervised work program, and community service organizations utilized by students and compile a list of average costs: **NA**
- Provide evidence of policy and applicable data per the recommendations of the 2018 Truancy Court Report including, but not limited to:
 - Orientation/guidance for judges involved in truancy matters including suggestions for a reasonable number of community services hours and education programs not including summer school: **NA**



Continued:

- Maintain a community truancy task force which works collaboratively to meet the interests of the District, the courts, families, and students and reports to the school board: **An Attendance Improvement Workgroup is being planned, with the first meeting to be held in September.**
- Continue to survey comparable school districts in Wisconsin to improve internal processes and report to the school board: **Report will be provide to school board as part of our annual summer attendance report.**



Continued:

- Provide data for any case where the judiciary exceeds suggestions: **NA**
- Create a general contact email for parents or students dealing with attendance issues to seek help: **Email addresses of attendance coordinators are accessible on the AASD website under “attendance”.**
- Create student and family survey and vehicle for anonymous feedback that reports to the Board: **A student survey has been administered for those students who have improved their attendance following an attendance lesson, and results will be shared later in this presentation. An additional survey regarding attendance will be administered to all high school students later this Spring. AASD staff requests clarity on what questions are to be asked of parents in a survey, as well as how to facilitate anonymous feedback that reports to the board.**



Demographic Data- Race/Ethnicity

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO MET **BOTH** CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM & HABITUAL TRUANCY THRESHOLDS

Race/Ethnicity	% of the group that met both CA and HT
Hispanic/Latino	23.6%
Asian	10.1%
Black or African American	32.1%
White	8.1%
Two or More Races	29.1%



Demographic Data- Continued

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO MET **BOTH** CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM & HABITUAL TRUANCY THRESHOLDS

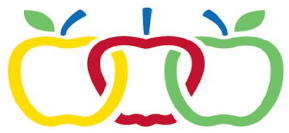
Qualification	% of the group that met both CA and HT
Free and Reduced Meals	36.6%
McKinney Vento	46.9%
Special Education	25.0%



2025-2026 SEMESTER 1

989 high school students met the threshold for habitual truancy (5+ unexcused absences, all or part of a day)

	# of students	% of students
Did not receive a 5-day habitual truancy letter	605	61.2%
Received 5-day habitual truancy letter	384	38.8%
Attendance plan developed - no further intervention needed	104	10.5%
Tier 2 Intervention implemented	185	18.7%
Tier 3 Intervention implemented	70	7.1%
Non-attenders	25	2.5%



SURVEY RESULTS

In November or December 2025, 409 students across 3 high schools participated in an Attendance Education Lesson. Following the lesson, 45.7% of those students (187/409) increased their attendance rate. These students were asked to complete a survey asking the following:

- Why do you think your attendance has improved?
- What part of the attendance lesson was most helpful to you?
- What challenges do you still face that makes it hard to attend school regularly?
- What could the school do to help students improve their attendance?

*Completed survey results will be provided on March 25, 2026



2024-2025 NON-ATTENDING STUDENTS

Current status of 2024-2025 non-attending students (31):

- **10** students unenrolled (transferred to another district, virtual school, or home-based education).
- **15** students turned 18 and dropped out (one requested re-enrollment after turning 19).
- The remaining **6** students are enrolled, and most are not regularly attending; however, either other supports are in place with the county, the student is over the age of 18, or alternative plans have been implemented.



2025-2026 NON-ATTENDING STUDENTS

25 non-attenders this school year:

- **4** students turned 18 and dropped out.
- **6** students were referred to the county for truancy.
- **5** students are working with the county due to delinquency or prior truancy referral.
- **1** student was issued a truancy citation.
- The remaining **9** students either are over the age of 18 and have an alternative plan in place for graduation, a county referral is being pursued, or are currently being considered for a citation.