



PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEALTHY SCHOOLS



TO COMBAT CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM...

*Strong wellness policies supported by funding can help combat chronic absenteeism

16%

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
STUDENTS MISSED
10% OR MORE OF
SCHOOL DAYS IN
2023-2024

Since School Year (SY) 2023-2024, the number of chronically absent students in Santa Barbara County has **decreased from 22% to 16%**, a difference of **3,687 students**.



...DISTRICTS NEED STRONG WELLNESS POLICIES...

*Sample Language from local school wellness policies.

1.
**Nutrition
Promotion**

2.
**Nutrition
Education**

3.
**Activities for
Student
Wellness**

4.
**Physical
Activity**

1. Promote and encourage use of Harvest of the Month in school lunch meals and menus. Each Fall, hold Rethink Your Drink assemblies for students at all school sites.

2. The District will annually promote and celebrate Walk & Roll to School Day (first Wednesday of October) and Bike & Roll to School Day (first Wednesday of May)

3. The District will annually promote a district-wide Week of Wellness (WOW), a week of both in-person and online sessions to support student, staff and family wellness, host a district-wide health fair for grades 5 and 7, publish and distribute a monthly school wellness newsletter and disseminate to all in the school community, and continue to implement the Second Step curriculum.

4. Implement the Let's Eat Healthy Curriculum at all grade levels.

*The WellSAT tools are national assessment tools to identify where local school wellness policies are strong and where they could be improved to meet current requirements and best practices.

...SUPPORTED BY FUNDING

- LCAPs allow districts to show to members of their school communities their commitment to health and wellness. They provide opportunities for districts to demonstrate how funded wellness initiatives support their students and achieve their goals.
- Added investments in wellness can result in tangible improvements in attendance rates and overall student wellness.
- LCAPs make it easier to protect funding for Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child initiatives by embedding them within the district budget for the following three years.

