

I.D.iv Attendance Rates

Attendance rates are an additional measure used in Maryland's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) calculations.

Based on the Examination of the Attendance Data (Table 5.5):

Table 5.5: Attendance Rates								
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO):		94%	94%	94%	94%	94%	94%	
Subgroups by Level		2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
All students	Elementary	94.5	94.9	94.5	95.2	95.5	95.3	94.9
	Middle	92.9	91.8	92.8	92.7	92.7	93.4	93.5
	High	94.5	91	90.8	90.9	92.2	92.6	92.8
African American	Elementary	95.4	95.5	95.2	95.8	96.1	96.1	95.6
	Middle	93.8	94.1	93.9	93.4	92.8	93.5	93.4
	High	94.9	91.8	91.3	91.4	93.1	94.0	93.7
American Indian/Alaskan Native	Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	99.2	98.8
	Middle	0	0	0	0	0		
	High	0	0	0	0	0	94.8	94.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	Elementary	94.8	94.4	95.2	88.2	95.4	95.2	95.8
	Middle	98.6	94.2	0	0	0	91.9	97.3
	High	0	96.2	95.7	99.1	0	96.3	100.0
Hispanic	Elementary	92.9	95.2	95.6	95	96	96.2	94.8
	Middle	81.6	89.3	91	89.3	91.5	95.6	95.2
	High	0	85.9	85	90.3	90.1	90.0	92.3
White (Not of Hispanic Origin)	Elementary	93.8	94.3	93.7	94.7	94.8	94.3	94.1
	Middle	92.2	89.9	91.9	92.3	92.7	93.0	93.3
	High	94.2	90.2	90.4	90.3	91.6	91.6	92.1
Free/Reduced Meals (FARMS)	Elementary	94.3	94.7	94.3	95	95.3	95.0	94.7
	Middle	92.1	90.9	91.7	91.6	91.2	92.5	92.4
	High	94	90.1	90	90.1	91.2	91.6	92.1
Limited English Proficient (LEP)	Elementary	95.4	96.9	95.9	93.9	95.6	96.5	95
	Middle	85.7	92.5	90.2	85.9	91.7	97.6	93.5
	High	96.7	0	0	0	0	98.6	94.8
Special Education	Elementary	93.7	94.8	94.1	94.6	94.9	94.1	94.6
	Middle	92.8	90.3	92	92	91.6	92.2	91.9
	High	93.3	88.1	87.8	86.4	88.9	89.3	90.7

1. Somerset County Is Experiencing Progress in Increasing Attendance Rates

a. Middle and high schools experienced an increase in attendance over last year.

- Middle level attendance increased 0.1%
- High School level attendance increased 0.2%

b. High school subgroups improved attendance.

- The Hispanic subgroup attendance increased 2.3%,
- The White subgroup attendance increased 0.5%,
- The FARMS subgroup attendance increased 0.5%, and
- The Special Education subgroup attendance increased 1.4%.

c. Elementary schools met the 94% standard.

- The Asian subgroup attendance increased 0.6%.
- The Special Education attendance subgroup increased 0.5%.

2. The Practices, Programs, or Strategies and Professional Development which Contributed to Progress in Attendance Rate

a. STRATEGY; Maintained attendance clerks.

- A count of 9893 total contacts to parents were attempted by attendance clerks at the 2 high schools.
- Attendance clerks completed 4881 phone calls to parents.
- A count of 115 referrals for attendance related issues were made to guidance by attendance clerks.
- A count of 1631 letters were sent to parents/guardians by attendance clerks.

b. STRATEGY; Maintained Truancy Court at the secondary level and extended it to elementary students.

- A count of 19 cases were processed by truancy court at the secondary level.
- A count of 12 cases were successful.
- A count of 1 case was opened at the elementary level and processed successfully.
- A count of 2 cases pending in District court for elementary students.

c. STRATEGY; Placed emphasis on attendance through Guidance departments.

- A count of 115 students were involved in case management of students with attendance issues.
- Attendance incentives were provided for regular school attendance through PBIS.
- A count of 180 students were mentored through various programs.
- Individual Learning Plans (ILP) developed with all secondary school students- 1075 of 1228 students or 88% of the total for grade 6-11 as reported in June 2009.

d. STRATEGY; Emphasized engaging instruction.

Walkthrough data monitors frequency of engaging instruction

Walk-Through Data of Highly Engaging Lessons

School	# of Lessons out of total observed
Deal Island Elementary School	157/190 83%
Greenwood Elementary School	177/242 73%
Princess Anne Elementary School	11
Woodson Elementary School	311 engaged out of 314 total

<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>STRATEGY, PROGRAM, OR PRACTICE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</i>	<i>FUNDING SOURCE AND COST</i>
Professional Development	PBIS Conference	Source: SSHA Grant Cost: \$1,151
Staffing	Attendance Clerks at 2 High Schools	Source: Local Cost: \$32,695
Staffing	Counselors, LSS and BIS to Case Manage 115 students with attendance issues	Counselors Source: Local Cost: \$489,590 LSS Source: Local Cost: \$139,310 Source: SS/HS grant Cost: \$124,389 BIS Source: SS/HS grant Cost: \$129,163

3. Challenges of Increasing Attendance Rates

Somerset County is experiencing challenges in attendance rate with several subgroups.

- African American and LEP students dropped in attendance at all levels.
- Hispanic and FARMS students dropped in attendance at elementary and middle levels.
- Special Education students' attendance dropped at the middle level.

4. Changes or Adjustments That Will Be Made to Ensure Progress

a. **ADJUSTMENT: Increase communication with parents and speak to them.**

- Continue to educate parents about the importance of regular school attendance.
- Implement *Connect Ed* automated attendance contact program at all schools.

b. **ADJUSTMENT: Continue to monitor and manage attendance and share data publically.**

- Continue to monitor attendance data, with emphasis on subgroup data.
- Maintain attendance clerks at the high schools.
- Add attendance clerks to elementary schools.
- Continue to utilize truancy court to provide intervention and support.

c. **CHANGE: Implement student efficacy-building programs.**

- Continue to use PBIS to encourage regular attendance.
- Expand mentoring programs to include more adult mentors.
- Implement the recommendations of the African American Male Task Force.
- Provide cultural diversity professional development to all staff.
- Fund Learning Support personnel from Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant.

AJUSTMENTS/CHANGES and TIMELINE	RESOURCE	CATEGORY
Continue to fund attendance clerks at the 2 high schools Timeline: August 2009 – June 2010	Staffing	Salaries/Wages Cost: \$40,226 Source: Local
Add attendance responsibilities clerks at the elementary schools to the IEP Clerks Timeline: August 2009 – June 2010	Staffing	Salaries/Wages Cost: \$56,848 Source: Local \$40,315; ARRA (Stimulus Funds) \$16,534
Continue to utilize truancy court Timeline: August 2009 – June 2010	Collaboration with Outside Agencies and Staff Time	Cost: \$0 Staff Time
Fund Learning Support personnel from the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant Timeline: September 2009 – June 2010	Staffing	Salaries/Wages Cost: \$146,985 Source: Local
Implement <i>Connect Ed</i> automated attendance contact program at all schools. Timeline: September, 2009-June, 2010	License Agreement	Other Instructional Charges Cost: \$6,676 Source: Community Support and Local Funds