

## CASE STUDY

## How Liberty Public Schools Increased Their Attendance Rate by 4% in a Single School Year

### BACKGROUND

Liberty Public School District 53 in Liberty, MO consists of 2,145 staff members across 19 buildings. The district faculty and staff serve 12,141 K-12 students and their families.



### KEY RESULTS

# 4%

Increase in attendance rate in a single school year

# 88.3%

Of students attending school 90%+ of the time

### OPPORTUNITY

**Liberty Public Schools was seeking to identify and address the root causes of rising absenteeism in their district**

Liberty experienced a sharp, pandemic-related drop in attendance in 2021 following the return to in-person classes. They wanted to use proven practices to help boost attendance and increase students' sense of belonging at school.

### SOLUTION

**Liberty leadership joined EAB's Absenteeism Collaborative to learn tactics for driving change in parent behavior to improve attendance**

Two members of Liberty's leadership team participated in four guided EAB workshops with a cohort of peers dedicated to boosting attendance in their districts. They learned best-in-class strategies for engaging teachers and parents in addressing absenteeism, including what outreach parents should receive and when, and how to make communications as effective as possible.

### IMPACT

**Liberty increased the percentage of students attending school at least 90% of the time by 4% in a single school year**

Liberty developed a collaborative approach for boosting attendance by actively involving teachers, parents, and students. They established a sense of shared ownership for getting chronically absent students back into the classroom by employing tactics like setting attendance goals with students and creating mailers to share building and district-level goals for attendance. Their strategy effectively communicated the why behind the importance of attending school in-person, contributing, in only one school year, to a 4% increase in students with at least 90% attendance.



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“You have to think outside your bubble to improve. EAB allows us to do that on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis.”

Christopher Hand, Director of  
Assessment, Evaluation and Testing  
*Liberty School District 53*

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# Partner With Parents to Reduce Chronic Absenteeism

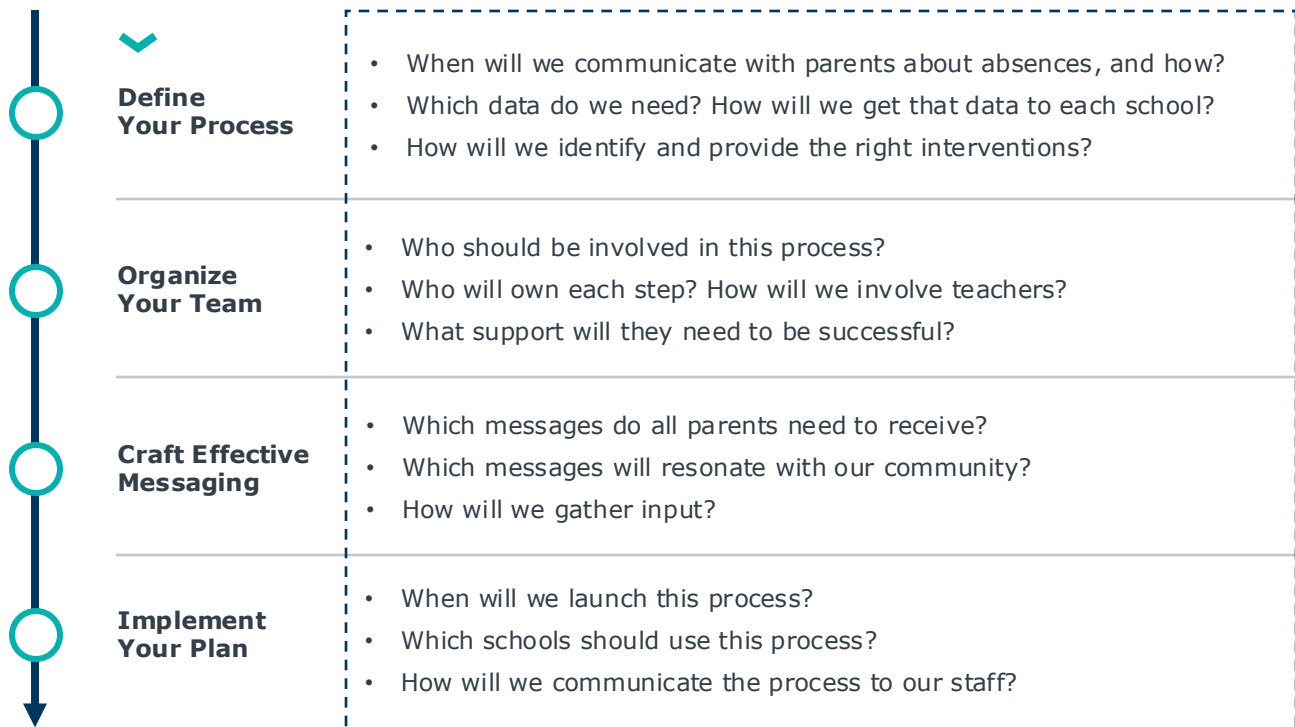
**Rates of chronic absenteeism have doubled nationwide since 2019** leaving districts in every state scrambling to get students back into classrooms. Traditional approaches to managing absenteeism are not sufficient for the scale of this challenge and don't align with new root causes of the problem.

For most districts, reducing absenteeism starts with rethinking the process for communicating with parents about absences – focusing on partnership, not prosecution. EAB is helping districts update their practices and adopt a sustainable, research-based process for managing absenteeism in their schools.

## Hardwire a New System for Reducing Chronic Absenteeism with EAB

EAB Will Help You:

*Questions You'll Answer*



## Learn How EAB Can Help You Improve Attendance at Scale

### Tailored Support



- Expert guidance
- Thought partnership
- 1:1 collaboration opportunities

### Ready-to-Use Resources



- Data tools
- Project plans
- Communication guides

"The support EAB provided was amazing!  
**There's no way we could do this all on our own"**

*Assistant Superintendent, EAB Collaborative Participant*

**Ready to learn more?**  
Schedule time  
with our team at  
[eab.com/k12](https://eab.com/k12)

