



## Mission

*To ensure that all LAUSD students are enrolled, attending, engaged, and on-track to graduate.*

*Inside Every Student is a Graduate*

### DROPOUTS: A NATIONAL CRISIS

- Every school day, nearly 7,000 students become dropouts.<sup>1</sup>
- More than one million students a year drop out of school.<sup>2</sup>
- Each year, approximately 1.3 million students fail to graduate from high school; more than half are students of color.<sup>3</sup>

### DROPOUTS: A NATIONAL CRISIS

- In California, a high school dropout earns \$9,367 less a year, than a high school graduate.<sup>4</sup>
- Over the course of a lifetime, a high school dropout earns on average \$260,000 less than a high school graduate.<sup>3</sup>
- High School dropouts are far more likely to spend their lives periodically unemployed, on government assistance or cycling in and out of the prison system.<sup>4</sup>



### ATTENDANCE & DROPOUTS

- Research consistently finds that high absenteeism—one specific indicator of engagement—is associated with higher dropout rates.<sup>5</sup>
- New research suggests that as many as 7.5 million students miss a month of school each year, raising the likelihood that they will fail academically and eventually drop out of high school.<sup>6</sup>
- Every year, 1 in 10 kindergarten and 1st grade students miss a month of school (excused and unexcused absences).<sup>7</sup>
- “Kindergarten absences can affect academic achievement, especially for low-income students unable to make up for lost time and can set a pattern of poor attendance and academic failure, fueling the dropout rate.”<sup>7</sup>

### PURPOSE

Pupil Services and Attendance Counselors are child welfare and attendance advocates who utilize a three-tiered model (prevention, early intervention and intensive intervention) to improve individual and system-wide student attendance, engagement, achievement and graduation. Pupil Services and Attendance Counselors work directly with students who experience difficulties in achieving their academic potential due to social/emotional, home and community barriers. Pupil Services and Attendance Counselors in specialized units provide additional support services that are needed by the specific populations they serve.

### PROGRAMS

- Attendance Improvement (AI)
- The Diploma Project
- FamilySource-City Partnership
- Field Education
- Foreign Student Admissions
- Foster Youth Achievement
- Homeless Education
- Juvenile Hall/Camp Returnee
- Group Home Scholars
- Permits and Student Transfers
- YouthSource-City Partnership



### SERVICES

- School-based Pupil Services and Attendance Counselors
- Student Discipline and Expulsion Pupil Services Counselors
- Student Recovery Day (SRD)
- LD Coordinators and Support Staff
- Attendance Motivation/Incentive Programs and Campaigns
- Attendance Statistics/Data Evaluation
- Case Management and Consultation
- Field Education Training for Interns
- Community Collaboration and Resource Linkage
- Dropout Prevention
- Educational Alternative/Options Information
- Home Visits/Conferences
- Individual, Group, Family Counseling
- Parent and Student Education
- School Attendance Review Board Meetings (SARB)
- School Attendance Review Team Meetings (SART)
- Professional Development



1. Alliance for Excellent Education, Issue Brief, Nov 2011  
2. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics (2011) The Condition of Education 2011, [http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator\\_scr.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_scr.asp)  
3. Alliance for Excellent Education, Fact Sheet, High School Dropouts in America, Updated September 2010  
4. Alliance for Excellent Education March 2012 California High Schools California Dropout Research Project, Policy Brief 15, Why Students Drop Out of School: A Review of 25 years of Research, October 2008  
5. USA today Study: 7.5 Million Students Miss a Month of School each year, May 2012, <http://usatoday.com/education/story/2012-05-17/study-chronic-school-absenteeism/55030638/1>  
7. Attendance Works <http://attendanceworks.org>