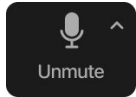
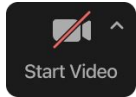


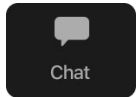
# Zoom Meeting Preparation



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
  - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”



- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
  - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”



- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.

If you require an interpreter or have other accessibility needs for future LDOE meetings, please contact [LDOEcommunications@la.gov](mailto:LDOEcommunications@la.gov).





**THE POWER OF PRESENCE**  
◆ **LDOE ATTENDANCE** ◆

# April 2026 Attendance Monthly Call

Enhancing Academic Success Through a Statewide Attendance Strategy

# Agenda

- Introduction / Sign In
- Monthly Call Focus & Purpose
  - Finish Strong
    - Communication
    - Incentives
- Updates

Please email [attendance@la.gov](mailto:attendance@la.gov) with questions.



# Finish Strong: Attendance Communication



# Communication is Key

## Leveraging Trusted Messengers to Improve Attendance

**Teachers are key trusted messengers** for students across all age groups.

- For younger students, engage messengers who reach families directly:
  - School nurses, pediatricians, parent leaders, faith-based leaders
- LEAs should **identify and equip messengers** with tools and resources to reinforce why attendance matters.
- For older students, expand messengers to include:
  - Coaches, after-school providers, and peer influencers

### Key Idea:

*Who delivers the message matters just as much as the message itself.*



# Communication is Key

- **Pre-recorded Messages**
  - Use local leaders and community voices to reinforce attendance, especially on low-attendance days
- **Public Service Announcements (PSAs):**
  - Share messages across community spaces such as social media, local media, public transit, and events
- **Social Media Campaigns:**
  - Use short videos and infographics to highlight the impact of attendance on student success
- **Attendance Phone Banks:**
  - Conduct targeted outreach to families to reinforce expectations and offer support



# Student-Centered Approach

## Start with Student Motivation | Not Compliance

Shift messaging from “you need to be here” to “this matters to you right now.”

- Connect attendance to topics that interest students:
  - Final grades and promotion
  - End-of-year events and privileges
  - Social moments and memories
- Use language that feels immediate:  
*“Every day counts right now.”*



# Elevate Student Voice

## Leverage positive peer influence.

- Feature **student testimonials** in short videos or announcements that focus on:
  - Why they are showing up
  - What they do not want to miss
- Create **peer-to-peer** messaging
  - Student leaders, athletes, club members
- Use real student language, not scripted adult messaging



# Make Attendance Visible and Celebrated

Create daily and weekly visibility around showing up.

- Classroom or grade-level **attendance shoutouts**
- Weekly recognition for:
  - Most improved attendance
  - Consistent attendance
- Schoolwide visuals such as trackers or countdowns to end-of-year goals

Please email [attendance@la.gov](mailto:attendance@la.gov) with questions.



# Tie Attendance to Experiences, Not Just Outcomes

**Students respond more to experiences than abstract goals.**

- Promote what they gain by being present:
  - Field days, performances, testing completion, celebrations, closeout assignments, EOY projects, and presentations
- Highlight “you had to be there” moments
- Build in small, frequent incentives tied to showing up consistently

Please email [attendance@la.gov](mailto:attendance@la.gov) with questions.



# Close the Loop with Families

**Keep families informed, but still student-centered.**

- Share progress in simple, clear terms
- Highlight what students will miss if absent
- Celebrate improvements, not just perfection

Please email [attendance@la.gov](mailto:attendance@la.gov) with questions.



# Finish Strong: Attendance Incentives



# Incentives That Drive Attendance Behaviors

Focus on what you want to change — not just outcomes

- Align incentives to **specific attendance behaviors** (e.g., improved attendance, reduced absences, consistency)
- Reward **behaviors** that build sustainable habits
- Offer **short-term recognition cycles** (weekly/monthly) to build momentum
- Include **student & family voice** in selecting meaningful incentives
- Ensure recognition is **positive, responsive, and motivating**

## **Key Question:**

*Are our incentives reinforcing the exact behaviors we want to see more often?*



# Meaningful Strategies

## Make incentives relevant, accessible, and impactful

- Recognize **families alongside students**, especially in early grades
- Provide **barrier-reducing supports**
- Celebrate **staff efforts** who engage families and improve attendance
- Use **low-cost, high-impact** incentives, such as:
  - Certificates or school-wide recognition
  - Extra recess or privilege time
  - Dress-down days (non-uniform)
  - Lunch with a staff member

### **Key Idea:**

*Effective incentives don't have to be expensive, they just have to be meaningful.*

Please email [attendance@la.gov](mailto:attendance@la.gov) with questions.

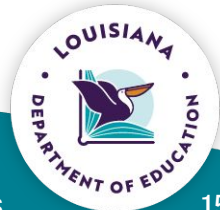


# Student-Centered Incentives That Motivate

- Focus on **what students value**, not just what adults assume
- Prioritize **experiences over items**
- Offer **frequent, short-term incentives** to build momentum
- Reward **effort and improvement**, not just perfect attendance
- Keep incentives **inclusive and accessible for all students**

## Key Idea:

*Incentives work best when they feel personal, immediate, and attainable.*



# No Cost | Low Cost Incentive Ideas

- **Surprise rewards and incentives** tied to showing up consistently
- **Flexible seating** or choice of where to sit
- Extra recess or free time
- Music during class transitions or work time
- Lunch with a teacher or staff member
- Classroom privileges or leadership roles

## Key Idea:

*Small, meaningful privileges can drive big behavior changes.*



# Make Incentives Visible and Consistent

- Use **daily or weekly recognition** to keep students engaged
- Create excitement with **unexpected rewards**
- Clearly communicate how incentives are earned
- Ensure all students have a **real opportunity to qualify**
- Keep the focus on building positive attendance habits

## Key Idea:

*Consistency and visibility make incentives more effective over time.*



# Measuring the Impact of Our Communication and/or Incentives



**Simple**



**Measurable**



**Impactful**





Questions?

# Resources

## Louisiana Attendance Planning

- Attendance Strategy
- Attendance Policy and Statutes
- Attendance Data
- Attendance Team Documents
- Attendance Tiered Strategy



## [Power of Presence Attendance Webpage](#)



Please email [attendance@la.gov](mailto:attendance@la.gov) with questions.





# Recording/Reporting Reminder

Students can acquire 2 unexcused tardies that count toward truancy in a single day if they:

- check in unexcused after the regularly scheduled start time and
- check out of school unexcused prior to the regularly scheduled dismissal time at the end of the school day.



# Up Next

**Save-The-Date**  
**TLS Teacher Leader Conference May**  
**26-28th in New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Attendance focused sessions will be held.**



# Updates

- Previous presentations can be found on the [LDOE Monthly Calls](#) webpage
- May [Attendance Monthly Call](#)
  - 8 a.m., May 7th
- Attendance [Office Hours](#)
  - 8:30 a.m. April 16th

