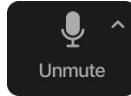
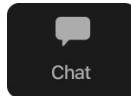


Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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.





THE POWER OF PRESENCE

◆ LDOE ATTENDANCE ◆

February 2026 Attendance Meeting

Enhancing Academic Success Through a Statewide Attendance Strategy

Agenda

- Introduction / Sign In
- Monthly Call Focus & Purpose
 - District Level Planning to Support Student Attendance
 - School Calendars that Promote School Attendance
 - Understanding and Addressing Dip Days
 - How To Find Your Chronic Absenteeism Info
- Updates

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



District Level Planning to Support Student Attendance

Planning and proactive measures to support increased attendance efforts



Designing School Calendars to Maximize Student Attendance

The school calendar can be one of the strongest *proactive attendance tools*

- Be strategic with break placement
- Protect the days around the breaks
- Align calendar decisions with attendance data
- Communicate early and often

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



Designing School Calendars to Maximize Student Attendance

The school calendar can be one of the strongest *preventative attendance tools*

Be strategic with break placement

- Questions to consider:
 - When is the break starting? Mid-week or end-of-week?
 - For upper grades, what are your exam schedules?
 - How are you leveraging professional development days?
 - If you utilize half days, how do you communicate the instructional purpose?

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



Designing School Calendars to Maximize Student Attendance

The school calendar can be one of the strongest *preventative attendance tools*

Protect the days around the breaks

- Actions to consider
 - Schedule high-engagement days (assemblies, schoolwide events, assessments tied to instruction, not punishment).
 - Schedule high-priority, meaningful, instructional activities and/or assessments immediately before or after breaks.
 - Plan celebrations of learning, student showcases, or incentive days before/after breaks.
 - Communicate these days early to families so they are perceived as valuable, “must-attend” days

Designing School Calendars to Maximize Student Attendance

The school calendar can be one of the strongest *preventative attendance tools*

Align calendar decisions with attendance data

- Actions to consider
 - Review historical attendance trends to identify:
 - Chronic absenteeism spikes
 - Low-attendance days near holidays
 - Adjust professional development days, early releases, and testing windows accordingly.

Designing School Calendars to Maximize Student Attendance

The school calendar can be one of the strongest *preventative attendance tools*

Communicate early and often

- Promote the concept that missed days disrupt learning.
- Publish the calendar well in advance and reinforce expectations:
 - “Instruction continues through the last day before break.”
 - “Every day counts.”

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Understanding and Addressing Dip Days

What are Dip Days?

Dip Days are **predictable low-attendance days** that generally occur **immediately** before and after school breaks, holidays, and major Louisiana observances. These days can contribute **significantly** to chronic absenteeism, if not intentionally addressed.

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



Understanding and Addressing Dip Days

Why Dip Days matter?

- Instructional time is lost even when schools remain open
- Absences on dip days disproportionately impact:
 - Students with attendance challenges
 - Economically disadvantaged students
 - Students dependent on school-based supports
- Repeated dip days contribute to chronic absenteeism trends

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Understanding and Addressing Dip Days

Common Louisiana Dip Days to Anticipate: days before or after a break

- Fall Break
- Thanksgiving
- Winter Break
- Mardi Gras
- Spring Break/Easter/Good Friday
- Weather-Related Closures

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Understanding and Addressing Dip Days

Strategies to reduce Dip Days as “Must-Be-Here” days

- Schedule:
 - Student Celebrations
 - Performances
 - Culminating Projects
 - Schoolwide Attendance Challenges
- Avoid low-engagement activities

Understanding and Addressing Dip Days

Strategies to reduce Dip Days as “Must-Be-Here” days

- Communicate early with families:
 - Identify dip days on calendars and name them intentionally
 - Reinforce expectations
 - Instruction continues through the day before and after breaks
 - Share calendars early to support families in their planning

Understanding and Addressing Dip Days

Strategies to reduce Dip Days as “Must-Be-Here” days

- Actions to consider
 - Incentivize attendance
 - Grade-level or school wide recognition
 - Small incentives tied to presence, not punishment
 - Stakeholders’ acknowledgement of strong attendance

How To Find Your Chronic Absenteeism Info

The image shows a screenshot of a web-based dashboard for 'edlink'. At the top, there is a navigation bar with several tabs: 'School System' (which is highlighted with a red arrow and a black border), 'Attendance', 'Academics', and 'School System: Calendar'. Below the navigation bar, there is a sidebar on the left with a dark blue header containing the text 'edlink' and 'School System'. The sidebar lists several items: 'Essentials' (which is also highlighted with a red arrow and a black border), 'Usage and Data', 'Dropout Prevention', and 'Performance Dashboards'. The main content area of the dashboard is currently empty, showing a light blue background.

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



How To Find Your Chronic Absenteeism Info

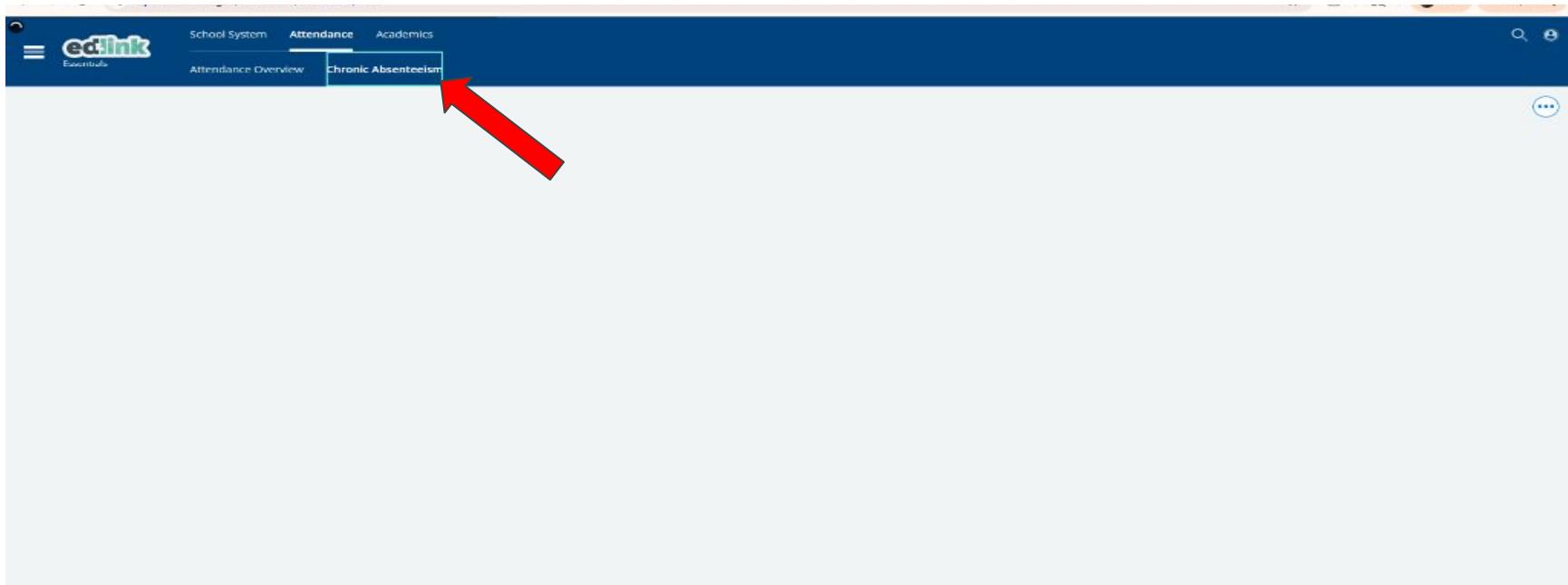


A screenshot of a web browser showing the edLink Essentials homepage. The navigation bar at the top includes the edLink logo, a 'School System' dropdown, an 'Attendance' button (which has a red arrow pointing to it), an 'Academics' button, and a search icon. Below the navigation bar, there are two main menu items: 'Attendance Overview' and 'Chronic Absenteeism'.

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



How To Find Your Chronic Absenteeism Info



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How To Find Your Chronic Absenteeism Info

School System **Attendance** Academics

edlink Essentials

Attendance Overview Chronic Absenteeism Integrated PD

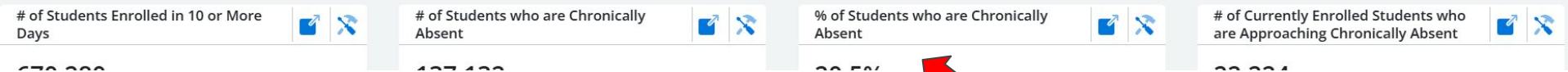
Filter Data

Note:

Students with 10 or more combined enrolled days at each aggregation level (site, school system, or state) are included in all metrics on this dashboard.

Chronic Absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or more of instructional school days, including both excused and unexcused absences.

Approaching Chronically Absent is the number of actively enrolled students who are missing 9% or more of instructional school days. This metric should be used to provide student interventions in order to prevent them from becoming chronically absent.



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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 with questions.





Updates

- Previous presentations can be found on the [LDOE Monthly Calls](#) webpage
- March [Attendance Monthly Call](#)
 - 8 a.m., March 5th
- Attendance [Office Hours](#)
 - 8:30 a.m. February 19th

