

Aurora Public Schools

Truancy Reduction Team Seeing Results

Aurora Public Schools continues to focus on reducing the number of chronically truant students. It is often the dedication of those behind-the-scenes that brings students back to school. In APS, this group is known as the truancy reduction team.

The work of the truancy reduction team resulted in more than 400 students coming back to school this year, which brings more than \$2.7 million to the district in per pupil revenue.

“I may have started school on a rough note, but now I know I can do this,” said Hinkley High School’s Lisa Woolman. “I’m a senior now... four months away from graduating. I even made honor roll last semester.”

Truancy reduction team members make home visits every day. Recently, they were joined by APS Superintendent John L. Barry, APS Board of Education representatives and staff members for the annual truancy door knocking campaign. The group knocked on the doors of APS students who have been chronically truant this year and invited the students to return to school.



From left to right: Board of Education President JulieMarie Shepherd, Truancy Prevention Advocate Natalie Powers and Superintendent John L. Barry visit the home of a chronically truant student.

Last year, nearly half of all APS schools had no habitual truants or showed some decrease in the percentage of habitual truants. Of the 112 students in the 2011-12 truancy program, 61 percent showed a reduction in unexcused absences.

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