



Utah State
Board of
Education

School
Safety
Center

SCHOOL SAFETY DASHBOARD WORKGROUP RECOMMENDATIONS WORKSHEET

WORKGROUP: CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

July 2026

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PURPOSE OF SCHOOL SAFETY DASHBOARD

To design and implement a comprehensive School Safety Dashboard that ensures compliance with [Utah Code Section \(UCS\) 35G-6-806](#) and [UCS 53E-3-516](#). The dashboard will accurately display school safety data as identified in state code and other recommended information from workgroups, as voted upon by the Utah State Board of Education (USBE). All data displayed will protect student privacy and provide clear insights to support safe and equitable learning environments.

PURPOSE OF WORKGROUP

To identify data element(s) for recommendation to include in the School Safety Dashboard in the area of **Chronic Absenteeism** that are aligned with at least one of the following:

- [UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report](#)
- [USBE Strategic Plan](#)
- Other Code, Statute, or Rule: _____
- The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USBE (rationale needed)

DATA ELEMENT(S) COLLECTION FOR RECOMMENDATION

CURRENTLY EXISTING

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
1	Type of school or learning environment	• UCS 53E-3-516 • USBE Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: ◦ R277-607 ◦ R277-419 • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USBE (rationale needed)	• This will help inform the public which type of learning environment each LEA is • Will help parents differentiate between how attendance is calculated in brick-mortar schools vs other learning options • Will need a tool tip or information definition ◦ Learner Validated - online school attendance (student has logged in and is participating) ◦ Attendance validated - physically attending a brick and mortar ◦ Hybrid - a school that has both

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
2	Chronically Absent Trends (once-a-year)	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USBE Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: ◦ R277-607 • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USBE (rationale needed)	• A visual representation of the chronically absent number trends to visually represent chronic absenteeism in the school/LEA over time (trend line / line graph) • This data element already exists on the Data Gateway (for both LEA and school level) • Can currently be broken down by grade level, ELL, Special Ed, Economically Disadvantaged, Gender, Ethnic Group, and LEA type (District total and Charter total) • This is currently submitted by LEAs once a year after July 1st for the entire school year. This is a lagging data and the data is made public in October / November in the following school year (from the previous year).

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
3	Student Enrollment Number (once-a-year)	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USB E Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: ◦ R277-419 • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USB E (rationale needed)	• Number of students that are officially enrolled in the school • Calculated by the Oct 1 counts, available by the end of Oct / beginning of Nov • Reported to USB E once a year at the beginning of the current school year • This data element is already available and exists on the USB E Data and Statistics / Reports page (Select Enrollment/Membership > Fall Enrollment by Grade Levels and Demographics) for both LEA and school enrollment.
4	Enrollment trends (once-a-year)	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USB E Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: ◦ R277-419 • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USB E (rationale needed)	• A visual representation of the enrollment number trends to visually represent enrollment declining or increasing (trend line / line graph) • This data element already exists on the Data Gateway as a dashboard for both LEA and school level • Can currently be broken down by grade level, ELL, Special Ed, Economically Disadvantaged. Also, are broken down to individual ethnicity group, sex, refugee, homeless, military, preschool, and LEA type in the excel online reports.

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
5	Attendance Rate (once-a-year)	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USBE Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: _____ • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USBE (rationale needed)	• Average Days of Attendance divided by Average Days of Membership ◦ R277-419: "Membership" means a public school student is on the current roll of a public school class or public school as of a given date. • This data element is already available and exists on the USBE Data and Statistics / Reports page (Select Enrollment/Membership > Attendance) for both LEA and school. • Calculated once a year after the school year ends • Is a lagging data indicator (showing for the previous year) • Schools can report up to three times a year, but many do not report until July. This makes the July data the most accurate. (Note: Data and stats would need to come up with processes to verify the accuracy of the data before the July submission if we want to display it more frequently, but the safest and cleanest data would be once a year, after the July submission)

NOT EXISTING - WISH LIST ITEMS

The following items would need a statute and/or rule change for USBE to collect this data from LEAs

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
6	Daily / Live Chronic Absenteeism rates	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USBE Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: _____ • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USBE (rationale needed)	• Actual number of students who have attended less than 10% of school days ◦ Chronic absenteeism includes both excused and unexcused absences • Calculated daily • Currently those that have elected to use Panorama already have access to this data • Would need clear attendance codes to capture excused vs unexcused absences. Examples are: ◦ E = excused absence ◦ U = unexcused absence ◦ Do not need information beyond this such as medical, etc., we would only need the E and U. ◦ At the June 4, 2026 board meeting, the Board approved clear definitions that apply to all LEAs regarding what counts as an “absence” (how many periods in a day count). The definition is missing more than 50% of the day. This will take some time to implement into the attendance practice of all schools. ◦ Start calculating after the first 10 days of school

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
7	Student Attendance Rate (Percentage)	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USBE Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: _____ • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USBE (rationale needed)	• Percentages of students attending school, calculated in real time (nightly) ◦ Calculated with the number of students that actually attended each day divided by number of students enrolled (nightly upload) • Would need a statute change and requirement for USBE to have this data • Currently those that have elected to use Panorama already have access to this data • Would need clear attendance codes to capture excused vs unexcused absences. Examples are: ◦ E = excused absence ◦ U = unexcused absence ◦ Do not need information beyond this such as medical, etc., we would only need the E and U. Example: Daily percentage: Day 1: 10 students attended of 100 enrolled = 10% attendance rate

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
8	Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Rate	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USB E Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: _____ • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USB E (rationale needed)	• Rolling percentage of students attended divided by the number of students enrolled (calculated daily or weekly for display) • Calculated over the school year, out of total possible number of school days (calculates nightly) • added filters for LEA, school, grade, gender, and other characteristics Example: Daily attendance: Day 1: 10 students attended of 100 enrolled = 10% attendance rate Average daily attendance = 30% Daily attendance of: Day 1: 20% attendance rate Day 2: 30% attendance rate Day 3: 40% attendance rate

Item #	Data Element for Consideration	Supporting Rationale	Additional Supporting Information
9	Attendance trends	• UCS 53E-3-516: School disciplinary and law enforcement action report • USBE Strategic Plan • Other Code, Statute, or Rule: _____ • The best interest of public knowledge and helpful to parents, as determined by USBE (rationale needed)	• Trend line / line graph • Shows attendance trending up or down at certain points of the year, calculated from the ADA rate ○ Example: displaying trend lines so we can see what times of year that students are typically absent more than at other times ○ Ability to compare year to year as well

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS TO SHARE

- The Board could consider requiring additional data submission / validation dates for attendance data, since some pieces are only required at the end of the year:
 - Ex: attendance data is most accurate in July, even though it can be collected optionally from LEAs three times a year