

Student Attendance and School Climate Committees

Georgia law O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.2 requires that every county's Superior Court create a committee to improve school climate, student attendance, and school safety. Committees must 1) create and adopt a school attendance protocol and 2) make recommendations on how to increase attendance, safety, and community support. The purpose is to:



Reduce the number of unexcused absences



Increase the % of students present for state-mandated testing



Improve school climate in each school



Reduce the number of students who are chronically absent

**On April 28th, 2025
Governor Brian P. Kemp
signed SB123
overhauling Student
Attendance and School
Climate Committees**

Public schools are prohibited from expelling students solely due to absenteeism, promoting a more supportive approach to attendance issues.

A student is considered "chronically absent" if they miss 10% or more of the school year.

School systems with a chronic absenteeism rate of at least 10%, or individual schools with rates at or above 15%, are required to establish attendance review teams

Key Dates - SB 123

NOV 25, 2025

COMMITTEES MUST MEET BY THIS DATE, AND THEN, AT LEAST TWICE ANNUALLY THERE AFTER

JUN 1, 2025

COMMITTEES SHALL ADOPT WRITTEN STUDENT ATTENDANCE PROTOCOLS

NOV 1, 2026

GADOE MUST SUBMIT REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE BODY DETAILING COUNTY-LEVEL COMPLIANCE AND DATA

Creating Your Local Student Attendance and School Climate Committee Details

Below are additional details to assist with creating an Student Attendance and School Climate Committee. This list is not inclusive. For additional support, please see the contacts listed below.

Call to Action

See O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.2 for a list of required committee members, including the superior court chief judge and juvenile court, law enforcement, school officials, and others

Review Data

Check out <https://georgiainsights.gadoe.org/Dashboards/Pages/default.aspx> for Attendance, School Climate, and Whole Child Health data

Identify Protocol

Every school will look different, but schools will have various protocols which should be reviewed. Reach out to your local superintendent.

Map Services

Mapping what is available is the first step to matching your students' and families' needs with what's available. This will also allow you to map the gaps in services needed.

Have Questions? Ask one of the experts.

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