SEAT 11

THE SEAT SERIES · HANDOUT A · SEAT CARD: DO THIS MONDAY

Practitioners · K-12

The Family Stability Conversation

How do I see the home conditions behind an absence without judging the family?



THREE MOVES FOR THIS WEEK

☐ Ask the mobility question

Cost: $0

How many times has this student changed schools or homes in three years?

☐ Lead with strengths

Cost: $0

Every GG-FSI item is worded as a strength; read it aloud as a conversation.

☐ Join the field test

Cost: $0

Pilot GG-FSI v1.0 and share practitioner feedback.

OPENING THE CONVERSATION

1. I would like to understand what makes school days go well for your family.
2. In the past 30 days, what has felt steady at home?
3. If a ride or a shift fell through, who could you call?
4. What would 'more stable' look like to you?

CLASSIFY BEFORE YOU CONSEQUENCE

Withdrawal
Housing, caregiving, economic domains. Most often linked.

Avoidance
Relational and community domain. Who is a trusted adult?

Refusal
Health stability domain, including caregiver health.

Truancy
Routine domain: supervision and predictable days.

AVOID THESE MISSTEPS

- x Confusing family structure with family stability
- x Making high-stakes decisions from a score alone
- x Reading a family's silence as indifference

HOW YOU WILL KNOW IT WORKS

Leading: Families with a Family Stability Action Map
Lagging: Attendance after stability supports begin

Evidence: Schools Spared, Children Punished, Ch. 3 (Antoine and Kayla, composite cases); Schools Spared, Children Punished, Ch. 3: MSD of Warren Township case study; Federal Reserve Board, Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2024 (2025).