

SEAT

31

Attendance Teams • K-12

An Attendance Team That Owns the Next Step

How should our attendance team be built so every case has an owner and a clock?

10 slides • 2 handouts • evidence from Schools Spared, Children Punished and the Attendance Science™ research base



Every response needs an owner and a clock

“

At the 114th IATDP conference, five threads ran through the week. One was simple: who owns the next action, how fast, and did it work? Coordination is a workflow, not a hope.

Source: Gentle-Genitty, Attendance Talk, 114th IATDP Conference, Corpus Christi (Oct 21, 2026)



Every story in this series is a composite or a published case. Names are invented.



What attendance teams are asking

How should our attendance team be built so every case has an owner and a clock?

1

Meetings review lists
without assigning owners.

2

Cases stall between offices.

3

Teams track counts but not
outcomes.



Shared words before shared work



Owner

One named person responsible for the next action.



Clock

A date by which the action happens.



Seam owner

The person accountable for gaps between systems.



The numbers behind the moment

10 days

data refresh in tiered early-warning systems

Gentle-Genitty, Your Presence Matters national deck (2026)

77%

of schools using effective strategies reduce chronic absence

HEDCO Institute meta-analysis, University of Oregon (2025-2026), 49 U.S. studies

4

No Empty Seats commitments to guide every case

Attendance USA, No Empty Seats National Position Statement



Match the response to the reason

Teacher

Notices and asks why first.

Counselor / social worker

Classifies and builds SALT plans.

Liaisons

Housing, foster care, family partners.

Administrator

Removes structural barriers.



Three moves you can make this week

01

Cost: \$0

Name an attendance lead

One person runs the review and tracks owners.

02

Cost: \$0

Owner and date on every case

No case leaves the meeting without both.

03

Cost: \$0

Close the loop

Each review starts with: did last time's actions happen?



A PRESENCE™ prompt for your building



Problem definition



Research evidence



Environmental context



Statistical analysis



Equity assessment



Network and partnership



Compliance and legal



Evidence-based
recommendations

YOUR PROMPT

Review last month's cases. What share had a named owner and a date?
What share of actions happened?



Common missteps, and how you will know it works



Reviewing lists without assigning actions



One person carrying every case



Skipping follow-up on past actions

LEADING INDICATOR • Moves first

Cases with owner and date

LAGGING INDICATOR • Confirms it worked

Actions completed on time



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HANDOUTS Seat Card (A) and Find Your Data worksheet (B)

KEEP GOING IN THIS SERIES

Seat 32: The Ten-Day Review Cycle

Seat 33: Tiered Supports: Who Needs What

Seat 34: Relationship Mapping



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showing up possible.*

