



WSSWA Conference
Show Me the Data

Nov 10-11, 2016
Heidel House Resort
Green Lake, WI

The focus of our 2016 WSSWA conference is on understanding how to effectively collect and track data that can be utilized to help direct our practice towards effective intervention strategies. **Our keynote presenter is Dr. Michael Kelly**, a nationally known expert on school social work, evidence-based practice (EBP), and positive youth development.

MEMBERSHIP FIRST, DISCOUNT SECOND

Our conference registration no longer includes a one year WSSWA membership. Instead, we ask that you secure your annual membership first. Then, when signing up for the conference, you will enjoy the membership discount. Questions? Please visit our website at www.wsswa.org to learn more and register for both membership and the annual conference.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email WSSWA	wisconsinssw@gmail.com
Visit the Website	www.wsswa.org
JOIN US on Facebook	www.facebook.com/wsswa.org

Member of SSWAA? SSWAA is currently running a membership drive and have offered discounts to WSSWA members. You will find your discount code in the members-only section of our website.

WSSWA Board of Directors

Julie Incitti - President
Sonja Phillips - Past President
Karen Zimmerman - Secretary
Nichole Grube - Treasurer

Naomi Adams
Susan Baumann-Duren – WAPSO Rep, Regional Rep
Jenny Braunginn – UW Madison Liaison
Nic Dibble – DPI Liaison
Jackie Jackson – Publicity & Promotions
Leticia Kubisiak – Nominations
Katie Larsen-Klodd – UW Madison Liaison
Cathleen Pollock
Murrene Payton
Tim Schwaller – UW Milwaukee Liaison
Wendy Volz-Daniels – Legislative

BOARD NOMINATIONS
OPEN THROUGH
OCTOBER 1, 2016

FORM ON OUR WEBSITE

WSSWA REGIONAL REPS

Central WI: Susan Baumann-Duren
Madison: Tarica Jackson
MKE Public Schools: Dena Radtke
MKE Non-MPS and Charter: vacant
Suburban MKE: Karen Zimmerman
Northeast: Megan Baranczyk
Northcentral: Lisa Morgan
Northwest: Deanna Ndebele
Southcentral: Mary Ellen Wright
Southeast: vacant
Western: Tabatha Veum & Tim Hanson

See Website for Contact Information and Listing by School Districts

CHRONIC ABSENCE



While school districts often focus on unexcused absences and truancy, all absences are missed instructional time, and **missing 10% of the academic year is correlated with lower reading proficiency and reduced on-time graduation rates.** School social workers take on the primary role of taking a data-informed, non-punitive approach that draws upon insights from students, families, teachers and community partners to lead strategies that can improve attendance and achievement.

The 2016 Milwaukee County Absenteeism and Truancy Committee examined and recently published a practical guide to address absenteeism. After a thorough analysis of available literature and resources, the committee found that the reasons students miss school fall into three categories:

Lack of Awareness	Aversion	Barriers
Parents or students don't realize absences are adding up to academic risk	Child is struggling academically	Lack of access to needed health and mental health care
School lacks a strong culture of attendance	Lack of engaging instruction Child is being bullied	No safe path to school Poor transportation

Recommendation are offered using a three-tier framework.

Tier 3 (Students who missed 20% or more)

Intensive case management with coordination of public agency and legal response as needed.

Tier 2 (Students who missed 10-19% of time)

- Provide personalized early outreach.
- Meet to develop tailored action plan.
- Connect to a caring mentor at school.

Tier 1 (Students missing below 10%)

- Recognize good and improved attendance.
- Educate & engage student and families.
- Monitor attendance data & set goals.
- Establish positive & engaging school climate.
- Address common barriers to getting to school

Truancy vs. Chronic Absence

Truancy

- Counts only unexcused absences
- Emphasizes compliance with school rules
- Relies on legal and administrative solutions

Chronic Absence

- Counts all absences: excused, unexcused & suspensions
- Emphasizes academic impact of missed days
- Uses community-based, positive strategies

Interested in learning more about chronic absence strategies? Check it out.

<http://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/pupil-services/school-social-work/contents>

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/whats-the-difference-between-chronic-absence-and-truancy/>

<http://www.schoolengagement.org/school-engagement-services/>