

Showing Up Matters for R.E.A.L



The R.E.A.L. Framework

Agreeing upon key messages to communicate is critical to ensuring everyone understands why attendance matters. Attendance Works offers this R.E.A.L. framework to help you explain the importance of showing up, especially given the challenges experienced during the pandemic, and to reflect upon what is needed to make showing up to school worthwhile.

When adapting R.E.A.L., consider where people in your school community have the greatest challenges. Get to know families so you can decide which talking point(s) make most sense. For example, if families are struggling with housing or basic needs, you might want to start with offering Access to resources rather than emphasizing routines.

Use the ideas in this framework in your interactions with students or families, including during morning greetings, one-on-one conversations in the hallway, calls home, parent teacher conferences or comments delivered at school or community events. Keep the tone positive, respectful and supportive, whether you are speaking face-to-face or in writing. We tailored the R.E.A.L. concepts for you to use when talking to families with young children and older students, and for older students. See below in Showing up matters for R.E.A.L. It is an opportunity to:

- Build Routines
- Increase Engagement
- Provide Access to resources
- Support Learning

Presentarse es importante para una R.E.A.L. oportunidad para:

- Crear Rutinas
- Fortalecer los Enlace y Compromisos
- Proporcionar Acceso a recursos
- Apoyar La Enseñanza

Routines: Daily attendance routines, created at home or in school, can reduce stress for students and families and create a sense of safety and security, especially after chaotic transitions.

Engagement: Being in school helps students to get to know peers, teachers and school staff, and to create trusting relationships that motivate students to participate in learning.

Access to Resources: Schools help students and families gain access to basic resources such as meals, physical and mental health services, and fun enrichment activities including sports, clubs, music, etc.

English and in **Spanish**.

Learning: Learning is most meaningful when it is active, social, and allows students to apply concepts to real life situations. Showing up to school regularly helps students engage in learning that builds proficiency in reading and math that will help them to graduate from high school.

Click on the links below to find the framework concepts tailored for specific groups:

[Families with young children](#)

[Families with older youth](#)

[Talking directly with older youth](#)

[**Return to the toolkit, Showing Up Matters for R.E.A.L.**](#)

Access the [!\[\]\(a870788d6ed9b8fd294b7654a8c8526b_img.jpg\) R.E.A.L. social media messaging toolkit](#)