
Teaching Learning and Equity Department/Program Board Summary Report

Report Identification

Field	Information
Department/Program Name:	Check & Connect District Wide
Report Title:	Check & Connect
Report Leader:	Sarah Laulunen- Check & Connect Coordinator
Date Submitted:	November 19, 2025
Date of Board Meeting:	December 2, 2025

Check & Connect Program Report

I. Program Purpose

The Check & Connect program strengthens student engagement and reduces absenteeism, academic failure, and dropout rates through on-going mentoring and individualized support. By building strong relationships among students, families, and schools, the program ensures each student stays connected to their education and is supported in achieving academic and behavioral success.

Using data-informed strategies and consistent mentorship, Check & Connect promotes persistence, accountability, and equitable outcomes, particularly for BIPOC students at risk of disengagement.

II. Program Objectives & Goals

The program aims to build sustainable systems that promote equity, engagement, and academic success.

- Strengthen student attendance and engagement through consistent mentor relationships.
- Identify early warning signs of disengagement and intervene promptly through MTSS teams
- Support students in achieving individualized academic and behavioral goals.
- Collaborate with educators and families to ensure a unified support network.
- Reduce course failures and increase graduation rates among BIPOC students.
- Build capacity to use Check & Connect data for continuous improvement and equity-driven decision-making.

III. Key Actions & Activities

This year we have 8 total mentors-

- 5 of 6 positions are currently filled at Denfeld High School. The 6th position is being offered to a candidate (as of 11/20/25).
- 2 of 2 positions are currently filled at East High School.

1. Student Monitoring & Support

- Mentors are trained in the use of the Check & Connect model.
- Mentors are trained in ACE's and Functions of Behavior.
- Mentors are trained in Motivational Interviewing alongside county social workers.
- Mentors participate in monthly case consult.

2. Relationship-Building & Family Outreach

- Mentors are trained in individualized interventions and relationship building techniques.
- Mentors are trained in techniques utilized within home visit models and supported through modeling.

- Mentors participate in truancy court, evaluation result meetings and other community appointments to support caregivers.

3. Staff & Community Collaboration

- Mentors meet regularly with building teams to collaborate about student success.
- Mentors sit on building MTSS teams to assure criteria is utilized to determine C&C rosters.
- Mentors participate in local multi-disciplinary SARB meeting to address attendance concerns

4. Data Analysis & Communication

- Mentors are given regular fidelity checks to assure the program is fully implemented.
- Reports are generated to show growth in student success.

IV. Outcomes & Results-

During the 2024-2025 School Year 27 of 28 Check & Connect Students Graduated with 1 remaining student entering the Bridge Program.

We are currently serving 78 Students at Denfeld High School.

- 68% of Students are BIPOC Students
- 32% of Students are Caucasian
- 24% of Students are receiving SPED services.
- Staff at Denfeld have provided over 21,000 minutes of intervention in quarter 1 of the 25-26 school year.
- Staff at Denfeld have spent over 6,800 minutes connecting with families/caregivers.
- Staff at Denfeld have supported students in completing 13.5 credits worth of credit recovery during quarter 1 of the 25-26 school year.

We are currently serving 27 Students at East High School.

- 22% of Students are BIPOC Students
- 78% of Students are Caucasian
- 17 of the 27 enrolled students are using Check & Connect as an SRBI instead of an initial SPED evaluation.
- Staff at East have provided over 9,000 minutes of intervention in quarter 1 of the 25-26 school year.

- Staff at East have spent over 2600 minutes connecting with families/caregivers during quarter 1 of the 25-26 school year.

V. Next Steps

1. Data Systems & Evaluation (Q1–Q2 2025)

- Explore the use of EduClimber as an integrated dashboard to monitor attendance, academic, and behavioral data in real time.
- Conduct quarterly reviews with disaggregated analysis to refine interventions.

2. Family & Community Engagement (Ongoing)

- Strengthen partnerships with community organizations such as the Valley Youth Center, Lincoln Park Collaborative and Neighborhood Youth Services and expand outreach to BIPOC families.

VI. Future Focus:

1. Equity & Access: Sustain improvements in BIPOC student outcomes.
2. Sustainability: Secure ongoing funding and mentor capacity.
3. Policy Alignment: Embed Check & Connect outcomes within district equity frameworks.