HOSTING AN ATTENDANCE CAFE

MENU:
Special Today: ATTENDANCE

Appetizers:
- Welcome and Parent Cafe’ Agreements
- 3 Minute conversations with your designated partner. Each partner gets a turn to respond to these questions:
  - How was school attendance for you when you were students?
  - Did you go every day?
  - Did you miss a lot?

Entrée:
- Discuss this question for 15 minutes:
  - Did you know that children who miss 10 percent of the days they are enrolled in schools are less likely to learn to read by third grade and graduate from high school? That’s about 2 days each month and it harms children as early as preschool.
- Discuss this question for 15 minutes:
  - What are some of the obstacles that parents face in getting their children to attend school every day?
- Discuss these questions on the new table for 15 minutes:
  - What are some ways that parents can overcome these obstacles?
  - How can you help other parents overcome these obstacles?

Dessert:
- Conversation reflection: Table Hosts summarize the conversations at their tables.
- Volunteer to be on an Attendance Committee
- One word reflection

The Attendance Cafe is part of a series of Parent Cafes developed by Oakland Parents Together. Reprinted with permission by the New York State Attendance Partnership June 2012