**From:** Kathleen Harris, GO Public Schools Leadership Center
**To:** Schaaf, Libby
**Subject:** Oakland Attendance Bright Spots Celebrated
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# Oakland Attendance Awards

## Celebrating bright spots and hard work by families and educators

Dear Libby,

It takes a community effort to ensure students attend school every day. Far too often, however, this crucial work by principals, teachers, school staff, community and family members does not get proper recognition.

The Oakland Attendance Awards and Celebration, held last week at Mills College, looked to change some of that. Principals shared what is working at their school to promote positive attendance, and awards were presented to "bright spot" school staff from 13 schools.

Oakland Attendance Awards

Click here to read more about the Oakland Attendance Awards on our blog.

Click here to view photos of the awards event on Facebook.

Last year *nearly one out of nine children* in Oakland Unified were chronically absent, meaning they missed almost a month of school. We need your help to raise awareness and rally the community around the importance of attendance and its role in academic achievement.

To that end, in the coming weeks the Oakland Achieves Partnership, a collaborative of

community agencies, will release a report on reducing chronic absence in Oakland schools, *Every Day Counts*, produced with the help of the Oakland Education Cabinet Attendance Collaborative and Oakland Unified School District, among others. It lifts up what is working in bright spot schools and provides an analysis of citywide data to inform work in all our schools. Please look for announcements of its publication soon.

My best,
Kathleen Harris
Director of Collective Impact
Great Oakland Public Schools Leadership Center

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