**Straight A’s**
Supporting School Attendance

**“ASK” ABOUT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**
→ Routinely ask at preventive care visits and sick visits about the number of absences a student has experienced and if they are engaged in distance learning (as applicable).
  ● NOTE: This can be coded and billed as Z55.8, “challenges with school attendance”

**“AMPLIFY” THE IMPACT OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ON HEALTH AND ACADEMIC OUTCOMES**
→ Provide guidance on when a sick child should stay home, especially regarding high-risk COVID-19 symptoms, and when to return to school after a positive COVID-19 test in the household.
→ Put up posters and provide handouts to convey the importance of attendance to caregivers/patients.

**“ADDRESS” BARRIERS TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**
→ Conduct comprehensive well-child exams that screen for:
  ◆ Physical health
  ◆ Mental health
  ◆ Oral health
  ◆ Social determinants of health, including access to internet and technology

**“ACTIVELY” PARTNER WITH SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES TO SUPPORT ATTENDANCE**
→ Help with or inform families about available resources:
  ◆ I.e., school and community-based supports for physical and mental health conditions as well as social factors and internet/technology
→ Help address access issues by:
  ◆ Extending office hours, making before and after school and weekend appointments available for school-aged youth
  ◆ Offering telehealth
  ◆ Providing information for the family to connect with the school regarding IEPs

Adapted from resources by American Academy of Pediatrics, Healthy Schools Campaign, and Attendance Works.