

The dropout rate across the country for high school students remains at an alarmingly high level. Although there are many reasons for the high dropout rate, one major reason is truancy. Students who are repeatedly absent from school are more likely to read and write below grade level, engage in anti-social activities, and experience some form of mental health issue. In the state of Vermont, efforts are being made to address the truancy problem. Unfortunately, the efforts are insufficient and under-resourced. I studied the truancy project in Vermont and identify ways in which the project might reflect efforts in those states with fairly successful truancy programs.