

# *NEXT STEP*

## A 2-PART HIGH SCHOOL CHRONIC TRUANCY INTERVENTION

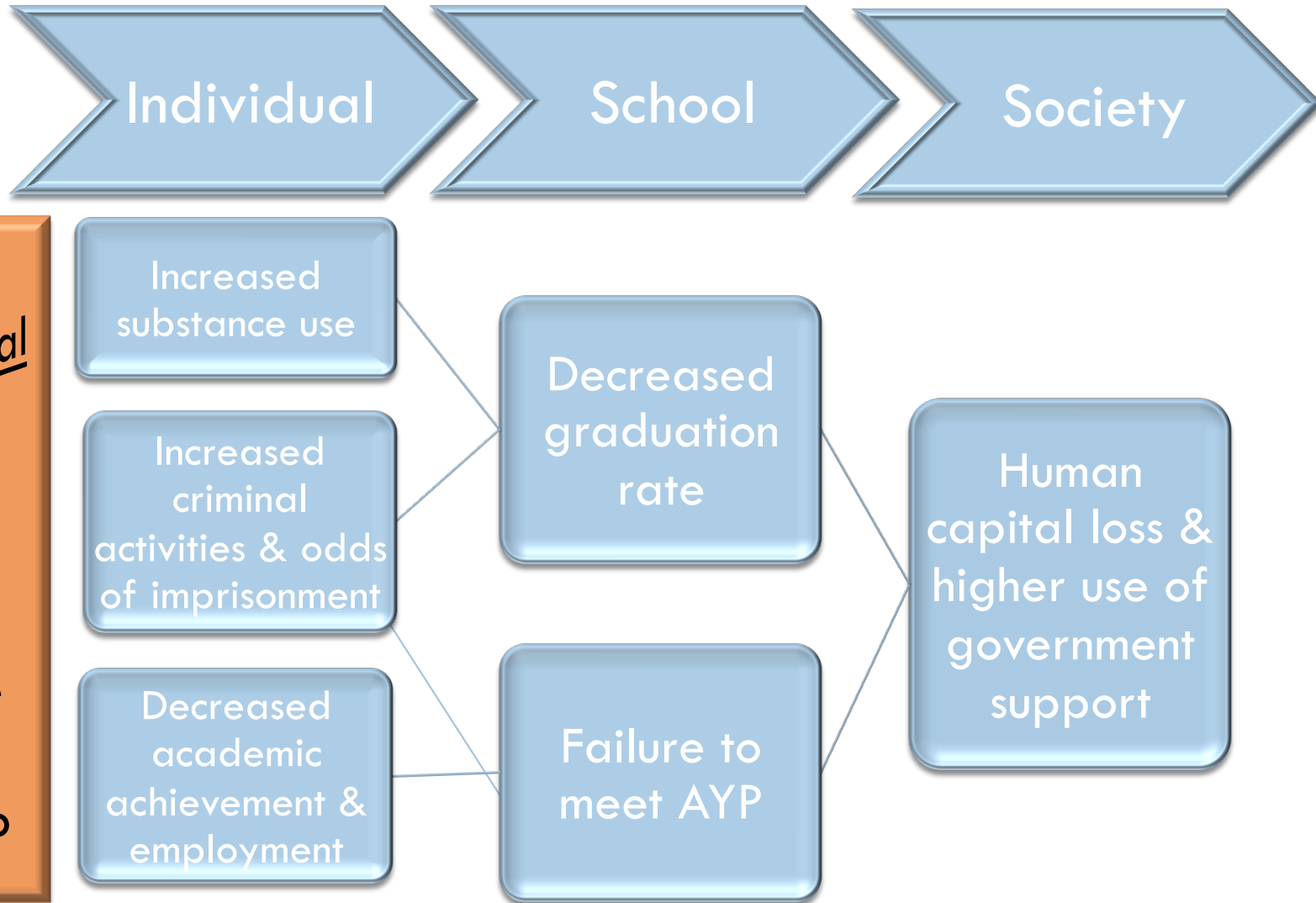
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# Chronic Truancy

Truant: >10% of the year  
a deliberate, unexcused absence

- Approximately 2 million American students are truant at least once a month.



**Possible Developmental Risk Factors**

- Identity foreclosure
- Truant peer group

School engagement can be defined as a students' psychological investment in, and effort directed toward, learning.

# Theoretical Fit: Engagement Theory

Context

## Psychological Variables

### Values + Goals

- ~When surveyed 30% answered they definitely wont go to college, only 3% non-truant youth felt this way
- ~Seniors who want to attend college are significantly less likely to be truant

### School Connectedness

- ~Lack sense of belonging, anonymity
- ~Feelings of isolation
- ~Poor relationships with peers & teachers

### Competency Beliefs

- ~15% of truant youth thought they definitely would graduate high school vs 91% of non-truant youth
- ~Internalization of Neg. feedback → Negative self-concept

Achievement

# Next Step

	Values & Goal	School Connectedness	Competency Beliefs
<b>Small Group</b> *focus career/ps planning (psp) *weekly	<p><u>Objective:</u> Build future time perspective by explicating the link btw immediate tasks &amp; long term goals</p> <p><u>Example:</u> You want to be an Entrepreneur? What classes do you need?</p>	<p><u>Objective:</u> Opportunities for students of all achievement levels to interact with one another &amp; develop friendships</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Truant &amp; non-truant peers together, group bonding activities &amp; social skills lessons</p>	<p><u>Objectives:</u> Instill effort based idea of achievement &amp; belief in self + ability</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Lessons on fixed versus growth mindset, personal strengths identification lessons</p>
<b>School Staff Mentor</b> *one-on-one weekly check ins starting in 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	<p><u>Objectives:</u> Reinforce behaviors reflecting educational values &amp; encourage student to seek and take advantage of educational opportunities</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Praise/ Certificates &amp; Summer camps/internships</p>	<p><u>Objective:</u> Dedicate time, interest, attention, and emotional support to students both academically and beyond.</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Bi-weekly choice activities, daily check-ins, connect with family</p>	<p><u>Objectives:</u> Identify factors under students' control &amp; promote belief in self + ability</p> <p><u>Example:</u> Tutoring-scaffold assignments to be challenging but achievable</p>