114th International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention
Corpus Christi, Texas 2026

Charting the Course: Connection as the Anchor to Truancy and Dropout Prevention

October 17, 2026- Saturday

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Pre-Conference Executive Board Meeting

October 18, 2026- Sunday

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Executive Board & Board of Directors Set-Up
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Conference Registration/Check-In

6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. **Opening General Session**
First Floor- Bayview Room

Welcome Remarks	IATDP President	Susan Holloway Friendswood, Texas
Welcome to Texas & Introduction of Keynote	TATDP President	Dr. Xochitl Echeverz Houston, Texas & Uruguay
Texas A&M Kingsville	**Professor and Coordinator of Superintendent, Principal, & Admin. Ed. Programs**	**Dr. Linda Villarreal** Kingsville, Texas
President's Reception	Network	All

October 19, 2026- Monday

7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Conference Registration/Check-In
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast- Corpus Christi Ballroom A

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Morning General Session**
Third Floor- Corpus Christi Ballrooms

Welcome Remarks	IATDP Executive Director	Keith LeLeux Lake Charles, Louisiana
Posting of the Colors	Texas A&M Corpus Christi	Color Guard
National Anthem	Corpus Christi ISD	TBA
Introductions	IATDP President	Susan Holloway
Presentation	Platinum Sponsor EDIA	Sydney Smith San Francisco, California
Keynote Speaker	**How to Keep Becoming When the Work Keeps Changing**	**Mandy Benedix** Pearland, Texas

114th International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention
Corpus Christi, Texas 2026

Charting the Course: Connection as the Anchor to Truancy and Dropout Prevention

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions #1**

Presenter	Topic	Location
Jayne Demsky- Founder, School Avoidance Alliance, LLC Mahwah, New Jersey	The Hidden Driver of Chronic Absenteeism: Why School Avoidance Must Reshape Truancy Practice	Aransas
Dr. Erik E. Oral- CEO Quatrain Analytics Houston, Texas	We Cannot Control Every Absence: We Can Control Every Response	Laguana Madre
Vel Smith, Executive Director of Partnerships- Grad Solutions & Kimberly Santoni, Sr. Account Manager- Grad Solutions Gilbert, Arizona	From Absenteeism to Achievement: Reengaging Students Through Personalized Learning, Mentoring, and Community Partnerships	Corpus Christi Ballroom A
Angela Miller Royal, Coordinator Student Support Services & Jill Kolasa, Director of Student Services- Hernando County School District Brooksville, Florida	Controlling What We Can: Reducing Absenteeism, Truancy, and Dropout Risks	Corpus Christi Ballroom B
Dr. Tameka Lewis, District Student Attendance & Dropout Prevention Coordinator Grand Prairie, Texas); Taylor Hejl, Account Executive- SchoolStatus Austin, Texas; Roberto De la Rosa Jr., Attendance Administrator & Bryan Campoy- Director, Innovative Programs- Kern High School District Bakersfield, California	The Intervention Strategy That Reduced Chronic Absenteeism by 36%	Corpus Christi Ballroom C

11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions #2**

Presenter	Topic	Location
Dr. Xochitl Echeverz Houston, Texas & Uruguay & Crystal San Martin Katy, Texas & Mexico, Student Support Facilitators- Katy Independent School District	Beyond the Absences: Heart, Humor & Keeping It Real	Aransas

114th International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention
Corpus Christi, Texas 2026
Charting the Course: Connection as the Anchor to Truancy and Dropout Prevention

11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #2 (continued)	
Presenter	**Topic**	**Location**
Dr. Kimberley James, Superintendent Willis, Texas; Yolanda Reyna, Assistant Principal Corpus Christi, Texas; Guang Zeng, Associate Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Texas	Student Mental Health in South Texas Schools: Truancy and Dropout Prevention	Laguana Madre
Rhonda Motley, Supervisor; Marvin Brown, Graduation Rate Initiatives Team (GRIT) Specialist; Katrina Taylor, Full-Service Schools Director; & Wendy Dunlap, High School Programs Executive Director- Duval County Public Schools Jacksonville, Florida	From Absence to Achievement: Innovative Strategies for Truancy Reduction and Dropout Prevention in Urban School District	Corpus Christi Ballroom A
Sydney Smith & Jonathan Pacheco, Regional Directors- EDIA San Franscisco, California	Less Paperwork, More Outreach: Unifying Attendance, Behavior, and Academic Signals to Prevent Dropout with AI	Corpus Christi Ballroom B
Sharon Bradley, Director Dallas, Texas & Xavier Warren The Colony, Texas RaaWeeK12 Attendance+	From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Targeted Action Planning for Better Attendance	Corpus Christi Ballroom C

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. LUNCH on your own/Visit the Vendors/Network
IATDP Board of Directors Luncheon Location TBD

1:15 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. **Afternoon General Session**
Third Floor- Corpus Christi Ballrooms

(Really Good) Door Prizes plus Coffee & Treats	2nd Vice-President 3rd Vice-President	Dr. Rollan Moore Lafeyette, Louisiana Angela Miller Royal Brooksville, Florida
Business Meeting: -Meeting Minutes -Finance Report -Association Report -Election of 3rd VP	President Secretary Treasurer Executive Director President	Susan Holloway Jeremy Doucet Jennings, Louisiana Brian Hartsel Knoxville, Tennessee Keith LeLeux Susan Holloway

114th International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention
Corpus Christi, Texas 2026
Charting the Course: Connection as the Anchor to Truancy and Dropout Prevention

Introduction of Keynote	President-Elect	Dr. Keena Howell Rockville, Maryland
Keynote Speaker	**Educating Students Experiencing Homelessness, Instability, and Disengagement**	**Dr. Ruby K. Payne** Corpus Christi, Texas

3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. USS Lexington "Blue Ghost" Self-Guided Tour

October 20, 2026 Tuesday

8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Conference Registration/Check-In
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Morning General Session**

Third Floor- Corpus Christi Ballrooms

Introduction of Keynote & Presenter	IATDP 1st VP	John Cox
Presentation	Silver Sponsor Parent Square	Michelle Peña-Thompson Goleta, California
Keynote Speaker	**Heartware before Hardware: Truancy and Dropout Prevention is all about Trusted Relationships**	**Dr. Stephen Sroka** Cleveland, Ohio

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. **Concurrent Session #3**

Presenter	Topic	Location
Sydney Smith & Jonathan Pacheco, Regional Directors- EDIA San Francisco, California ***(repeat session)***	Less Paperwork, More Outreach: Unifying Attendance, Behavior, and Academic Signals to Prevent Dropout with AI	Aransas
Jayne Demsky Founder, School Avoidance Alliance, LLC. Mahwah, New Jersey ***(repeat session)***	The Hidden Driver of Chronic Absenteeism: Why School Avoidance Must Reshape Truancy Practice	Laguana Madre

114th International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention
Corpus Christi, Texas 2026
Charting the Course: Connection as the Anchor to Truancy and Dropout Prevention

9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions #3 (continued)	
Michelle Peña-Thompson, Regional Director- Parent Square (Dallas, Texas)	Connection-Not Compliance- Keeps Students Present, Supported and Successful	Corpus Christi Ballroom A
Jennifer W. Gardner- Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Rollan L. Moore- Director; & Jameka McKinley, Coordinator- Lafeyette Parish Schools (Lafeyette, Louisiana)	Pathways to Presence	Corpus Christi Ballroom B
Erik Elorriaga, Senior Account Executive- SchoolStatus Lomita, California	What 1 Million Students Taught Us: 3 Shifts That Actually Reduce Chronic Absenteeism	Corpus Christi Ballroom C

10:30- 11:30 a.m. **Concurrent Session #4**

Presenter	Topic	Location
Rhonda Motley, Supervisor; Marvin Brown, Graduation Rate Initiatives Team (GRIT) Specialist; Katrina Taylor, Full-Service Schools Director; & Wendy Dunlap, High School Programs Executive Director- Duval County Public Schools Jacksonville, Florida ***(repeat session)***	From Absence to Achievement: Innovative Strategies for Truancy Reduction and Dropout Prevention in Urban School District	Aransas
Dr. Rollan L. Moore- Director, & Jameka McKinley- Coordinator Lafeyette, Louisiana ***(repeat session)***	Pathways to Presence	Laguana Madre
Cindy Welling, Head of Customer Experience- Schoolytics by EveryDay Labs Redwood City, California	Meaningful Shifts for High Impact Early Intervention	Corpus Christi Ballroom A
Dr. Xochitl Echeverz, Student Support Facilitator & Crystal San Martin, Student Support Facilitator- Katy ISD Katy, Texas ***(repeat session)***	Beyond the Absences: Heart, Humor & Keeping It Real	Corpus Christi Ballroom B

114th International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention
Corpus Christi, Texas 2026
Charting the Course: Connection as the Anchor to Truancy and Dropout Prevention

10:30- 11:30 a.m.	**Concurrent Session #4**	
Nathan Foreman, Regional Director- August Schools New York, New York	Dropout Prevention is a Team Sport: Attendance Assistant by August Schools	Corpus Christi Ballroom C

Ballroom Transition: Please exit the Ballrooms immediately following Session 4 at 11:30 a.m. to allow staff to prepare for the Awards Luncheon. Enjoy a break and visit our vendors while you wait. The luncheon will begin promptly at noon. Please return when signaled.

12:00-2:30 p.m.

Awards Luncheon

**Installation of Executive Board Officers*
**Installation of Board of Directors*
** Program of the Year Award*
** Person of the Year Award*
Keynote Speaker Jones Loflin

October 21, 2026 Wednesday

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Presenter	**Topic**	**Location**
Dr. Natsha White Administrator, Montgomery County Public Schools Rockville, Maryland	**OPTION A**- Hearing Officer Training- specialized instruction to conduct fair, legal, and orderly administrative hearings	Aransas
Dr. Carolyn Gentle-Genitty Pioneer of Attendance Science, Founder of Attendance USA, & Author Indianapolis, Indiana & Belize	**OPTION B**- Attendance Talk with Dr. Gentle-Genitty followed by Conference Reflections, Focused Team Planning & Networking	Corpus Christi Ballroom C