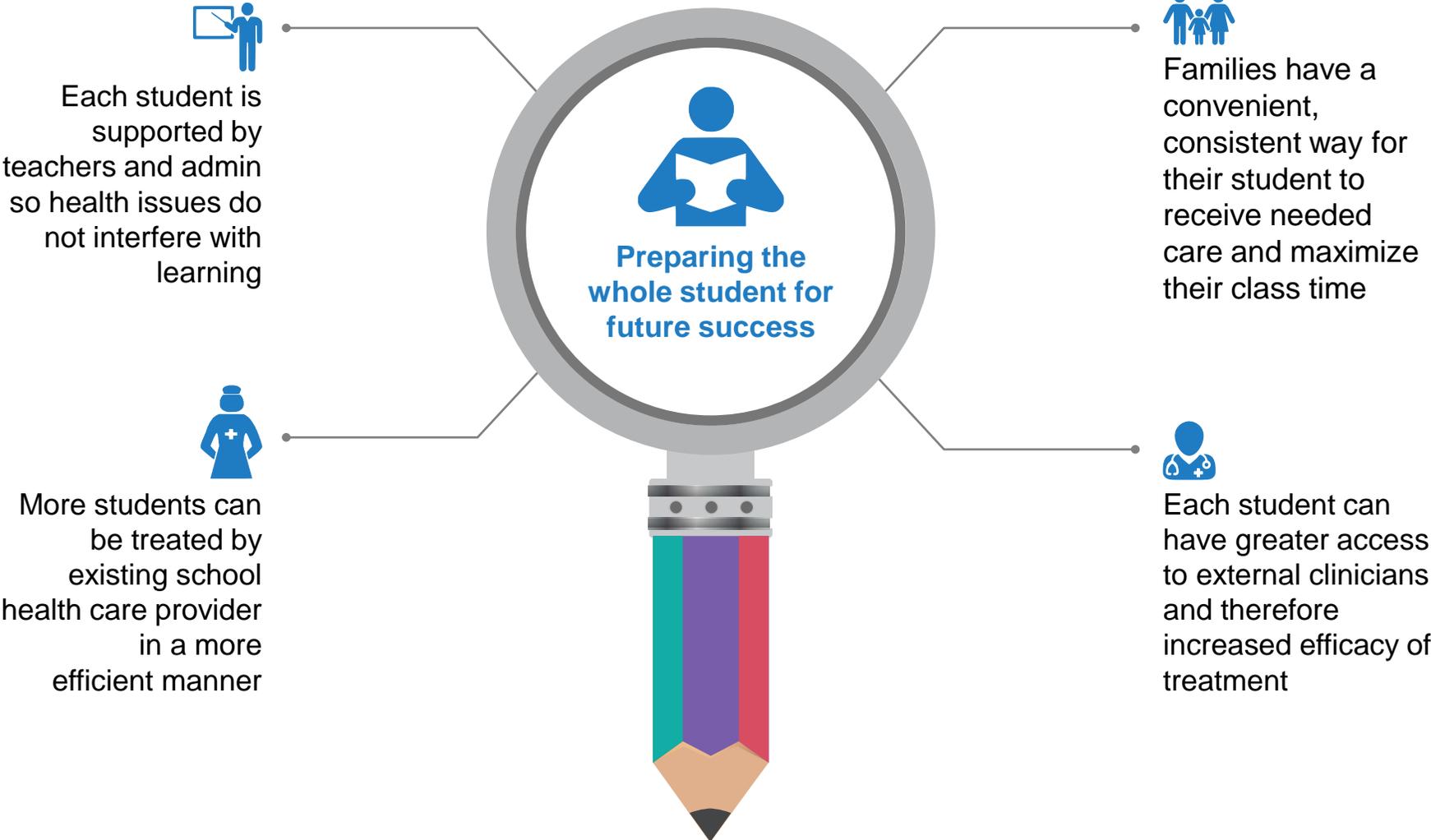


# School-based health care support toolkit: Vision for Ohio School-Based Health Care



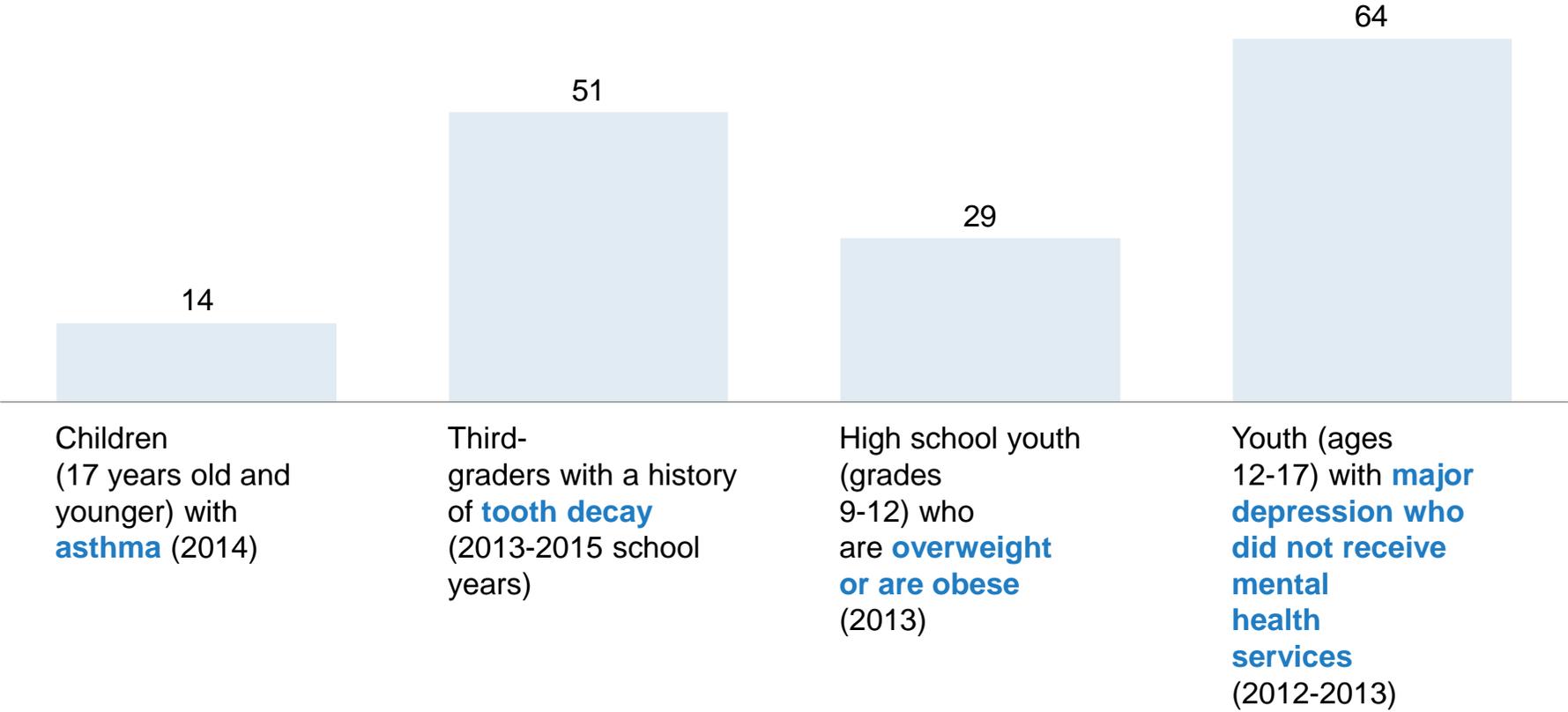
**Ohio** | Governor's Office of  
Health Transformation

# Ohio School-Based Health Care seeks to create an accessible, connected community of caring adults around each student to keep them in class and learning



# School-aged children in Ohio struggle with many common health issues that lead to academic issues

Common health-issues in Ohio school-aged children<sup>1</sup> , Percent



Students with persistent health issues have a higher probability of school failure, lower grade retention, and higher dropout rates<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Health Policy Brief 2", Health Policy of Ohio (7/2017)  
<sup>2</sup> "The relationship between student health and academic performance: Implications for school psychologists", School Psychology International (3/2015)

# School-based health care initiatives have shown measurable impact on student health and consequently academic outcomes

## Outcomes from different nationwide school-based health care initiatives

### Health outcomes



- Improved access to care
- Improved mental health outcomes
- Improved oral health outcomes
- Improved vision outcomes
- Improved nutrition
- Reduced hospitalizations

Adolescents are 10X more likely to utilize school-based health for mental health services than a community health center or HMO<sup>1</sup>

In ~25 San Diego schools, a districtwide nutrition intervention significantly reduced student BMI<sup>2</sup>

### Academic-related outcome



- Lower rate of absenteeism
- Fewer disciplinary referrals
- Fewer students in restrictive classroom environments
- Reduced academic stress
- Improved community perception of school quality or safety

Students in Dallas' School-Based Health Care program saw absences decrease by 50%; students utilizing mental health services had an 85% decline in disciplinary referrals<sup>3</sup>

In a sample of 400+ schools with and without school-based health care, parents and students in schools with health care rated "academic expectations" and "school engagement" significantly higher than in those without<sup>4</sup>

### Academic achievement



- Improved grades
- Improved test scores
- Increased classroom engagement

The Connecticut School-Based Health Care program found a 31% decrease in course failure among the 16K+ students that received services<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Use of Health and Mental Health Services by Adolescents Across Multiple Delivery Sites", *Journal of Adolescent Health* (2003)

<sup>2</sup> San Diego M-SPAN program (2008)

<sup>3</sup> Dallas Independent School District Youth and Family Centers Program (2000-2001)

<sup>4</sup> US Department of Education Learning Environment Survey (2007)

<sup>5</sup> Connecticut Association of School Based Health Centers (2011)

# School-based health care has shown transformative results across Ohio in a diverse set of communities with diverse needs

## How has school-based health care impacted your school community?



For all hours our doors are open, we're here to help the whole community

- Superintendent



We get students back to school and learning ... and have saved parents a great sum in lost wages

- Hospital network



My son can attend more school because there is more available care

- Parent



I can help so many more children get the treatment they need

- School care provider



We have access to students in need we never could have had otherwise

- Community Health Center



Our doctors show up at the football games ... they've become a true part of our school

- Teacher

# School-based health care has been defined in a range of ways – any could be appropriate depending on your community

- School-based health in Ohio ranges from a large school health center that houses full-time medical staff to a smaller part-time clinic that may only have a single staff person
- Many school-based health efforts are housed on-site within renovated rooms or an adjoining building, while others are housed off-site and linked to providers through their facilities or a mobile clinic
- School-based health can include a range of culturally sensitive services, a list of common options schools have included is provided below:

## Primary Care

- Annual and sports physicals
- TB testing
- Hearing and vision screening
- Management of chronic conditions (e.g. diabetes, asthma)
- Immunizations and lab tests
- Reproductive health services
- Over-the-counter medications and prescriptions
- Referrals to outside services

## Mental Health

- Alcohol and substance abuse counseling
- Mental health awareness and outreach, including suicide prevention
- Screening for depression
- Individual, group, and family therapy
- Crisis intervention
- Clinical and behavioral case management

## Oral Health

- Screenings
- Fluoride varnish
- Sealants
- Dental cleanings
- Oral health education
- Referrals to treatment and specialty services off-site
- Basic restorative services

## Other Wrap-around Services

- Health promotion and risk reduction
- Nutrition and physical activity promotion
- HIV/AIDS and STI prevention education
- Pregnancy prevention
- Peer health education and youth advisory boards
- Parent education programs

# Ohio School-Based Health Care's chief goal is reducing the rate of chronic absenteeism across the state



## Chronic absenteeism is tied to both health and academic outcomes



Students treated for recurring health issues are less likely to be chronically absent and more likely to respond to academic improvement efforts

Improved attendance is associated with higher math and reading achievement outcomes, educational engagement and social engagement

## School-based health care can have an impact



School-Based Health Care initiatives have shown a significant effect on rates of absenteeism, tardiness and early dismissal, as well as level of student engagement in class

# This toolkit contains resources to help in overcoming the chief perceived barriers in launching school-based health efforts

## Perceived barriers to starting



How do we get started?

How do we find health care providers to partner with?

How do we educate families, teachers and the community on our model and get them to buy in?

How will we be able to serve students and share data in a HIPAA/FERPA compliant way?

What if we don't have space for this in our building?

Where are we going to find the resources to make this work?

How will I organize my school-based team?

Who's going to help us when we have an issue?

## Toolkit resources to help



Info from other schools on how they got started and steps to connect with necessary stakeholders

Plan for finding, engaging and reaching out to the right provider partner

Engagement materials that highlight the benefits of school-based health care to that specific stakeholder

Information on data sharing and consent, including State of Ohio approved templates

Info on utilizing current space and potential options that require little additional space

Resources other schools have used to make their model sustainable

Roles and key responsibilities needed and information on how they interact and share data

Additional resources beyond the toolkit including peer network of schools excited to provide guidance (FORTHCOMING)