

StrongStart Setup

April 2022 v2.9







Version History

Version	Date	Description
1.0	10 Mar 2015	Initial Document
1.1	27 Mar 2015	Updated Secondary School Management preference
2.0	8 Sep 2015	Implemented new Positive Attendance setup and process
2.1	20 Sep 2017	Updated Screen shots and revisions throughout the document
2.2	21 Sep 2017	Added Principal's Attendance Report By Class to the Reports section
2.3	13 Feb 2018	Updated Security section; added School Start-up Checklist
2.4	13 Jun 2018	Updated Reports section to include the BC StrongStart Verification Report
2.5	1 May 2019	Added hyperlinks to Table of Contents
2.6	2 Oct 2019	Updated Taking POS Attendance in section 10 to include Class Roster, updated screenshots for release 5.10
2.7	21 Oct 2019	Updated Section 1.2 - School Setup template to support Student Portfolios
2.8	1 Oct 2020	6.1 Upgrades
2.9	20 Apr 2022	Updated Section 1.2 School Details, Ministry Extract, withdrawn students

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1.0 StrongStart Centres

The overall setup of a StrongStart Centre is similar to the setup of most class attendance schools. However, some unique settings enable StrongStart Centres to record positive attendance. This section details the most common setup for StrongStart Centres.

1.1 Security

StrongStart facilitators who are only recording attendance can be assigned one of the following StrongStart security roles.

- **StrongStart Facilitator Basic**: Staff view with read access to student information and the ability to take and post class attendance.
- StrongStart Facilitator School: School and Staff view providing read access to student demographics and the ability to take and post class attendance in Staff view or Edit class attendance in School view.

Clerical staff recording attendance for StrongStart students must have access to the Staff View, and a role that includes "Gradebook administrator access" permission in the Organization category. Currently, two of the four baseline Clerical security roles in MyEducation BC have both these permissions:

- Clerical School Admin Assistant
- Clerical SIS Admin





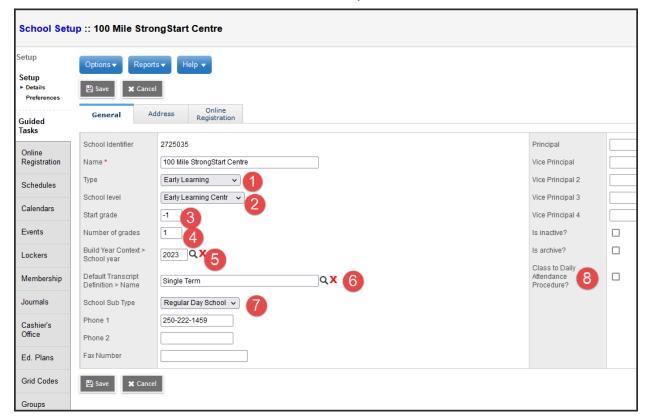
1.2 School Details

Even though StrongStart Centres do not record grades or comments for students, a default transcript definition needs to be selected in order to bring the required course into the school for attendance purposes.

School > School > Details > General tab

- 1. **Type:** Early Learning
- School Level: Early Learning Centre
 Start Grade: -1 (-1 indicates grade EL)
- 4. Number of Grades: 1
- 5. Build Year Context > School year: Current or Next Year
- 6. **Default Transcript Definition > Name:** Select one (i.e. 01 Single Term NYM-AE-ME-EE)
- 7. School Sub Type: Regular Day School
- 8. Class to Daily Attendance Procedure?: Uncheck the Checkbox.
- 9. **Save**

School > School > Details > Address tab: Enter or update address information







1.3 School Daily and Class Attendance Preferences

Positive Attendance in MyEducation BC StrongStart Centres is recorded and submitted to the Ministry of Education based on **Class Attendance** *only*.

A Daily Attendance value for StrongStart students is *not* required and *not* recommended. School Daily and Class Attendance Preference Settings below are for a school using Class Attendance *only*.

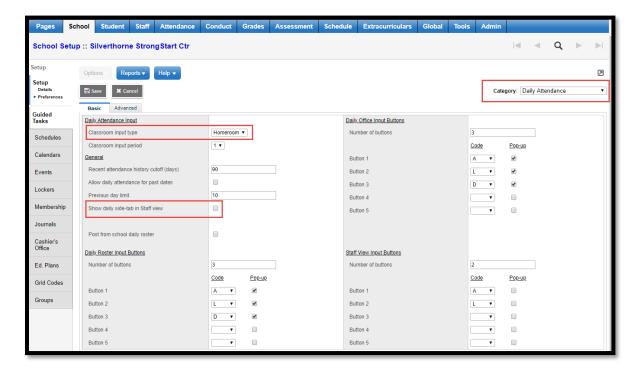
Attendance is initially posted through the Staff view and any changes to the student attendance are done in the School view for individual students.

1.3.1 Daily Attendance Preferences

School top tab > Setup side tab > Preferences > Category dropdown: Daily Attendance > **Basic** tab

These two settings MUST be set:

- Classroom Input Type to Homeroom This setting prevents the automatic creation of a daily value
- Show Daily Side tab in Staff view to *unchecked* hiding this removes the ability to enter Daily values in Staff view.



School top tab > Setup side tab > Preferences > Category dropdown: Daily Attendance Most of these preferences are not used for StrongStart centres.

- Classroom Input Period: N/A
- Recent attendance history cut-off enter the number of days of attendance history that will display in the Recent Attendance filter (e.g. 90 to have 3 months of history displayed)





- Allow daily attendance for past dates N/A
- Previous day limit N/A
- Daily Roster Input Buttons N/A
- Daily Office Input Buttons N/A
- Staff View Input Buttons N/A

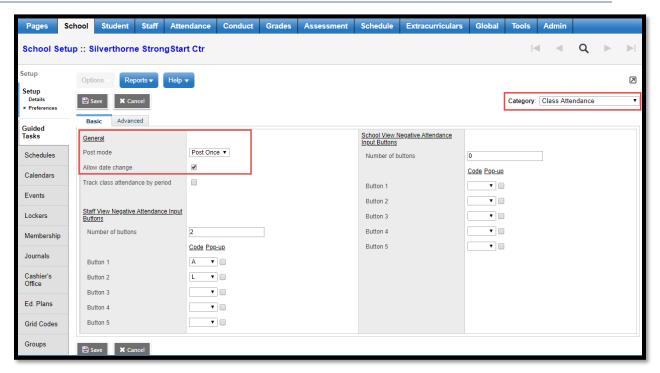
1.3.2 Class Attendance Preferences

School top tab > Setup side tab > Preferences > Category dropdown: Class Attendance > **Basic** tab

- Post mode If attendance is posted from Staff view more than once per class using POS attendance it will wipe out all of the entries previously posted. Setting to Post Once will prevent loss of work.
 - No Post Do Not Use
 - Post Do Not Use
 - Post Once Attendance can be posted to a student Class attendance record once, changes made after the initial post will not change the student Class attendance record. This is critical for accurate StrongStart attendance submissions to the Ministry.
- Allow Date Change Controls the Date Navigation setting in the Staff view > Attendance
 - Checked Allows date change in Staff view to permit staff entering and posting attendance for previous dates
 - Unchecked Entries for Class attendance for previous dates is done only in the office via School view
- Track Class Attendance by Period N/A
- Staff and School view Negative Attendance Buttons All settings in this section are N/A





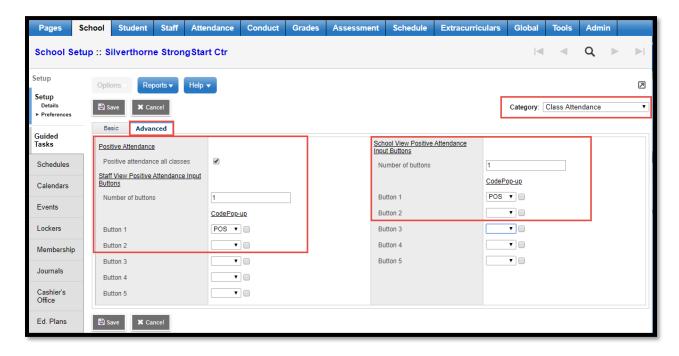






School top tab > Setup side tab > Preferences > Category dropdown: Class Attendance > **Advanced tab**

- Positive attendance all classes: Checked
- Staff and School view Number of Buttons: 1
 - Button 1: Select the dropdown for POS







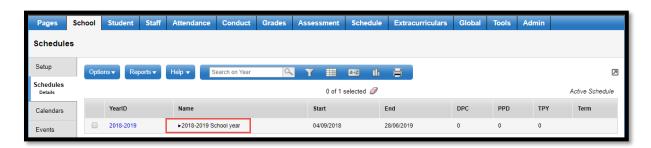
2.0 School Schedule

School > School > Schedules

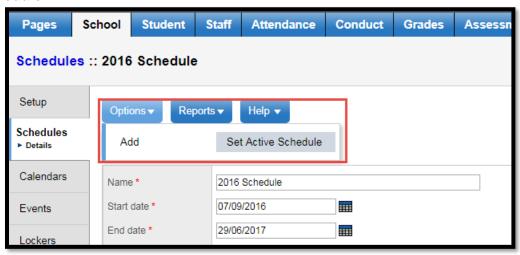
Ensure there is a YearID representing the current school year. If the YearID column is blank, set the filter to **All Records**

1. If the current year is in the list under All Records, click on the blue hyperlink and confirm the start and end dates are within the district calendar.

Ensure the current YearID is set as the Active Schedule. This is indicated by a small triangle (as illustrated below) in front of the schedule Name, or by the schedule year displays when the filter is set to Active Schedule.



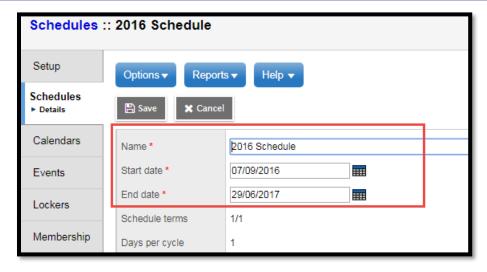
If you do not see the triangle, click the blue hyperlink on the YearID, then **Options > Set Active Schedule.**



- 2. If the current year is NOT in the list under All Records, click Options > Add
 - Populate the Name field
 - Populate the Start date and End date fields
 - Save
 - Options > Set Active Schedule
 - Save











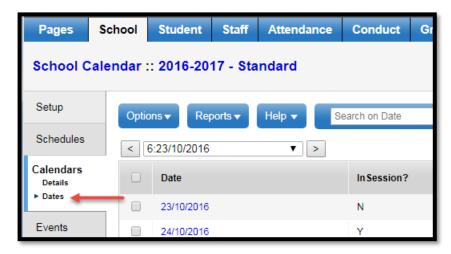
3.0 School Calendar

Districts must initialize a calendar to determine the session dates and non-session dates within their district.

A school calendar name of **Standard** will allow all schools with secondary students to take attendance on students from other schools with a calendar name of **Standard**. **This will be especially important for StrongStart Centres where students are cross-enrolled between multiple centres**.

Once the district calendar has been initialized:

StrongStart Centres should see dates in the School > Calendars > Dates



- If there are no dates in the **School** > **Calendars** > **Dates** leaf the school should:
 - Contact the district support desk and ask if the district calendar has been initialized.
 If not, the school should wait for the district calendar to be initialized as that process could overwrite the manually created school calendar.
 - If the district calendar has been initialized and the dates do not appear in the school calendar, the calendar will need to be initialized at the district or school level. See the *Initializing the School Calendar* in the School Setup guide for instructions.





4.0 Student Details

This guide does not cover student registration and assumes students are already registered in the StrongStart Centre. A calendar must be assigned to each student in order to take attendance. See the *Enrollment and Demographics* document for more on registering students in your school.

4.1 Assigning Calendars to Students

Every student in the school must have a Calendar assigned. If all students have been registered without a calendar you can mass assign your school calendar to all students or a selected group of students in your school.

School > Student > Options > Mass Update > Calendar = Standard > Update

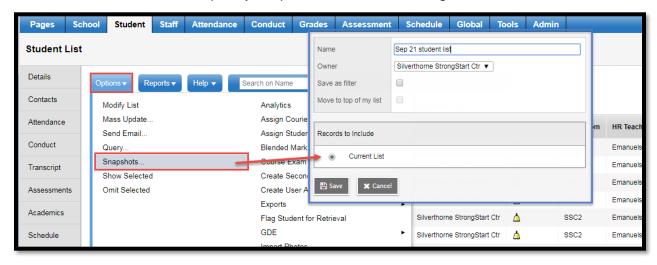
4.2 Creating a Student Snapshot

StrongStart Centres that have a large number of students may want to consider creating an initial snapshot with all students attending the program. This will make it easier to mass assign students to the course section for attendance as part of the setup tasks. Multiple snapshots can be created for StrongStart umbrella centre that house multiple sites, with one snapshot for each site. If a student attends multiple sites they can be added to multiple snapshots.

Remember that snapshots are static and will not automatically update when new students enter the school or are added to classes. After the mass scheduling of students into the course sections, it is recommended to remove the snapshot.

Student > Filter = All Active Students > Options > Snapshots > New

Give your snapshot a name that represents the students in the snapshot. Save as filter would not be recommended for a temporary snapshot used for scheduling.







5.0 Staff

Staff can be added to the school as new staff member, or if the staff member already exists in the district, a primary or secondary association to the StrongStart centre can be added.

School > Staff > Options > Add

- Legal last name
- Legal first name
- Usual first name (if different from legal)
- Usual last name (if different from legal)
- School > Name: Select the StrongStart school from the picklist
- Staff Type: SSCF





6.0 Schedule Structure

StrongStart Centres require a basic structure so students can be scheduled into the appropriate course for attendance. The most common structure is defined in this section.

6.1 Schedule Terms

A StrongStart Centre only needs one schedule term of 'Full Year'.

School > Schedule > Structure > Terms > Options > Add

Code: FY

Name: Full Year

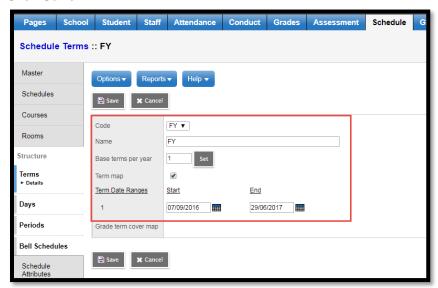
Base terms per year: 1

Click Set

Check the Term map box.

Term Date Ranges: Populate the Start and End dates of the school year

Click Save



6.2 Set up Structure to Have One Day and One Period

Schedule > Structure > Days > Options > Add

Day Count: 1

One set of columns is created

Identifier: 1

Name: 1

Click Save







Schedule > Structure > Periods > Options > Add

• Period Count: 1*

One set of columns are created

Identifier: 1Name: 1

• Click Save



*Note: StrongStart umbrella centres housing multiple sites may choose to have multiple periods, one for each site. Enter the number of periods in the Period Count field. Additional rows will display and can then be populated.



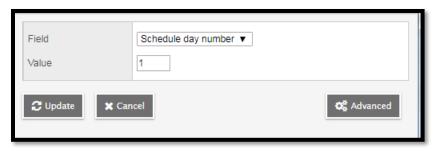


7.0 School Calendar Setup

7.1 Assign Day 1 to Every *In Session* Date for Your School.

School > School > Calendars > Dates > Filter = Days in Session > Options > Mass Update > Field = Schedule Day Number > Value = 1

Click **Update**







8.0 Course Setup

Ensure the XAT---EL course is in the district course catalogue. If it is not, it will need to be brought into the District.

To bring the XAT---EL course into the district course catalogue:

District > Schedule > Courses > Options > Add > Department = All

Find the XAT---EL course in the list, check the box beside it and click **OK**.

To bring the XAT---EL course into the StrongStart centre course catalogue:

School > Schedule > Courses > Options > Add > School Level = All

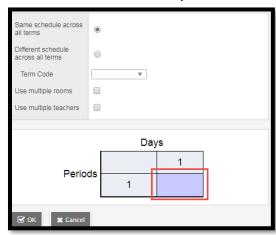
Find the XAT---EL course in the list, check the box beside it and click **OK**.

8.1 Create a Course Section

StrongStart Centres will use one or more course sections depending on the setup. If a district uses a single school number to house multiple sites with different facilitators, multiple course sections may be created to keep the sites organized.

School > Schedule > Master > Options > Add

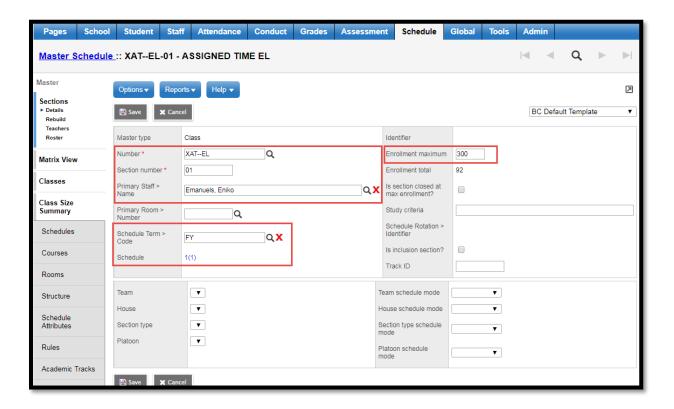
- Number: Select XAT---EL from the picklist
- Click OK.
- Section number: Enter the section number
- Primary Staff > Name: Select the facilitator from the picklist
- Schedule Term > Code: Select FY from the picklist
- Schedule: Click the blue hyperlink for Edit Schedule > in the popup, click the box in the
 matrix representing Day 1, and the Period used for this course section. Click OK and the
 Schedule field is populated with the schedule expression selected, e.g. 1(1).







- **Enrollment maximum:** enter number that will accommodate all StrongStart students registered to the school
- All other fields: N/A, the remaining fields can be filled in but are not required in StrongStart Centres
- Click Save







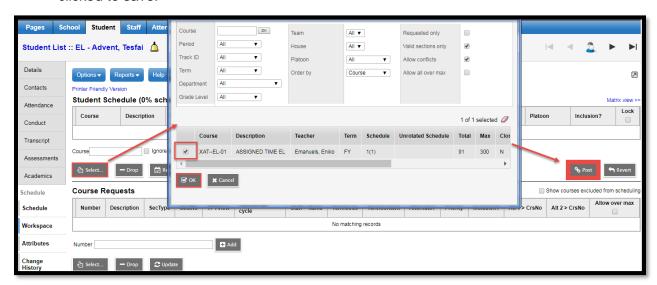
9.0 Scheduling Students into a Course Section

9.1 Scheduling Individual Students

This section provides a simplified outline of how to schedule an individual student into a course section. For complete details, see the *Student Scheduling* guide.

School > Student > Schedule > Workspace

- Click Select
- In the popup select the XAT—EL course section(s) the student will attend > Click OK
- Click Post in the workspace screen. Scroll to the right if it is not visible. Post MUST be clicked to save.



9.2 Using Snapshots for Mass Scheduling Students

The snapshot(s) built in the Creating a Student Snapshot section can be used to schedule all StrongStart students into the course section(s) created.

9.2.1 Scheduling students using a snapshot

Use the student snapshot to load all StrongStart students into the course section:

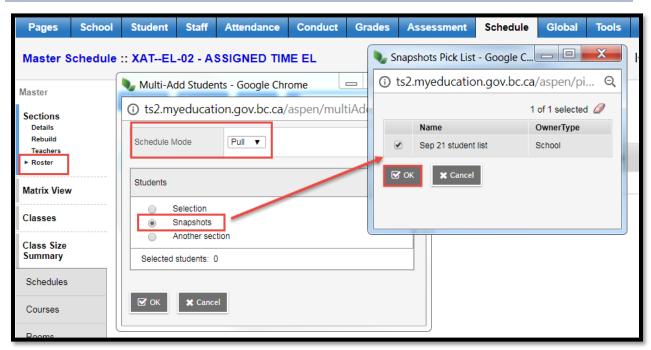
Schedule > Master > Sections > Roster > Options > Add

In the pop-up window, set the

- Schedule Mode: Pull
- Students: Snapshots > in the popup window select your snapshot > Click Ok
- Click Ok in the Multi Add student popup







The students from the snapshot will now display in the Course Section Roster





10.0 Taking Attendance

POS Attendance MUST be entered in **Staff** view or **Class Roster** which functions the same as Staff view. Office Staff will either switch to **Staff** view > **Attendance** and select a teacher to enter attendance, or **School** view > **Attendance** > **Class Roster**.

Changes to individual attendance after posting Class Attendance MUST be made in the **School** view > **Attendance** > **Class Office** see the Visual StrongStart Attendance document for an overview of these processes.

10.1 POS Class Attendance

Staff > (Select teacher if office user) > Attendance > Class > Input

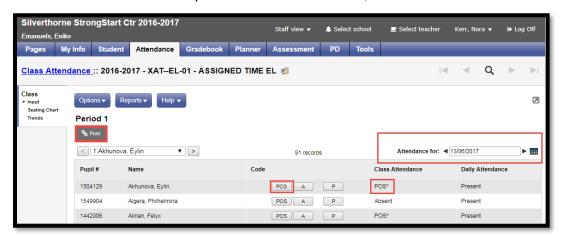
Or School > Attendance > Class Roster > Select class

Use the calendar icon at the top right to navigate to the correct date.

Click **POS** for each student in attendance on that date. The student line will display grey and the Class Attendance column will show POS*. The asterisk indicates the attendance has been entered for the student but has not yet been posted to the student record.

If you need to make a change *before* posting, e.g. if POS is inadvertently selected for the wrong student, click the **A** button to correct. After posting, changes must be made in the *School view* > *Attendance* > *Class Office*.

When the attendance is complete for the date selected, click the **Post** button.

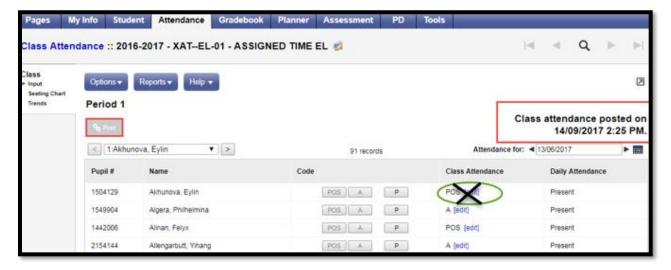


After attendance has been posted, the Post button is greyed out and is no longer accessible. A message is displayed over the attendance date giving the date and time the attendance was posted.

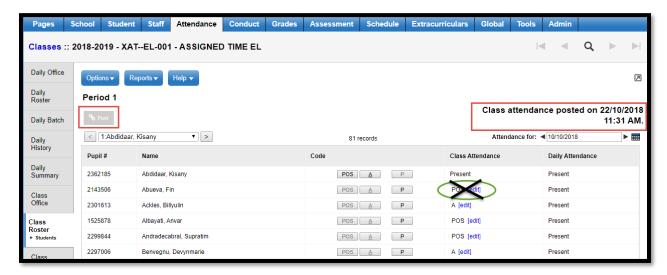




Staff > (Select teacher if office user) > Attendance > Class > Input



School > Attendance > Class Roster > Select class



Any changes required to the Class attendance for individual students MUST be made in *School view > Attendance > Class Office*. **DO NOT USE** the edit functionality that displays here, it is NOT intended for use with POS attendance. Re-posting POS attendance will overwrite attendance for all students and will require manual individual changes in School view to correct.

The **POST ONCE** Class Attendance Setting will prevent the overwriting of attendance data; see the *School Daily and Class Attendance Settings* section for details.

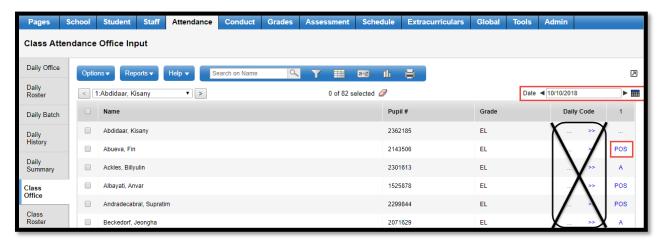




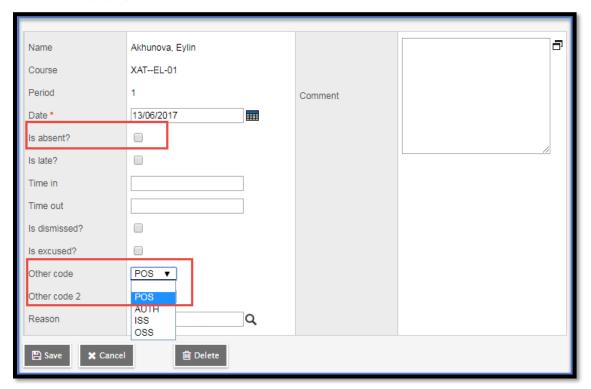
10.2 School view Attendance

School > Attendance > Class Office > Select the date

DO NOT USE the Daily Code column. Daily Attendance is *not* used for StrongStart attendance.



Click into the blue hyperlink in the period column (far right in the illustration above) to bring up the Student Class Attendance detail pop-up. Edits to the student Class attendance record are made in this popup screen:

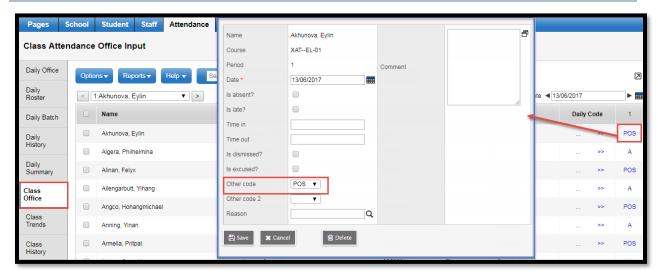


Click either the Is absent? checkbox or the Other Code dropdown as needed and click Save.

A student record that will pull into the Ministry StrongStart Attendance Extract will have a class attendance record with **POS** in the period column and the detail will display **POS** in the **Other Code**. Daily Attendance records are *not* included in the export.











11.0 Reports

School or District > Student > Reports > Ministry Reporting > **BC StrongStart Verification Report**

This report is used for schools and districts to confirm the export of attendance data submitted to the Ministry.

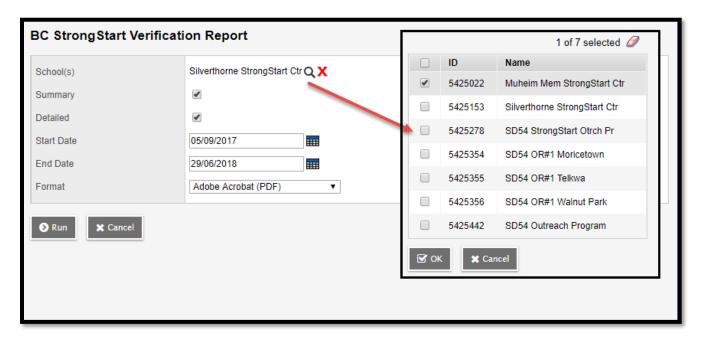
Running the report early in the school year provides a quick confirmation that POS class attendance is being taken in the StrongStart schools, avoiding end of year stress and manual re-entry of data.

The report can be run as a summary, outlining the overall count of POS entries at the school or district level, or as a detail report with a count of POS entries for each student.

The report(s) includes withdrawn student's details

In the Parameter pop-up window enter the following information:

- School(s) Select the School or Schools to include in the report
 - In School view the default is the current school
 - In District view select one or more schools to include in the report
- Summary Check the box to include the summary totals for the schools and course sections
- Detailed Check the box to include the detail POS count for each student
- Start and End Date Enter a date range for the report
- Format Select the format of the report from the dropdown list







Sample Summary:

Bulkley Valley		
	BC StrongStart Verification Rep	ort
Page 1	05-Sep-2017 to 29-Jun-2018	29-Jun-20
School: Muheim Mem Str	ongStart Ctr	
	XATEL-01 Total	15
	Muheim Mem StrongStart Ctr Total	15
School: SD54 Outreach P	rogram	
	XATEL-002 Total	52
	SD54 Outreach Program Total	52
School: Silverthorne Stro	ngStart Ctr	
	XATEL-001 Total	50
	XATEL-002 Total	50
	Silverthorne StrongStart Ctr Total	100
	Report Total	167

Sample Detail:

Bulkley Valley	BC StrongSta	rt Verification F	Report	
Page 1	29-Jun-2018			
School: Silverthorne StrongStart C	Ctr Ctr			
Usual Name	Pupil #	PEN	POS	
Abubakarahmed, Qingqun	2210394	144475324	5	
Alsaiari, Manill	2084590	141756890	2	
Arsham, Aneilka	2133263	142658186	5	
Bellabono, Vincente	2210400	144475332	2	
Bergeronvitez, Klea	2052064	141096032	5	
Bieker, Rauri	2133294	142658202	2	
Bigstone, Thisan	2052773	141108811	5	
Borriello, Chungte	1533402	139474076	2	
Buga, Cliffordbryan	2143636	142833540	5	
Burzynski, Patriciaangelica	2132924	142646702	2	
Chasse, Bea	2143506	142833508	3	
Claur, Sonita	2132926	142639780	3	
Drapeauanderson, Awez	1559751	140149147	3	
Fairbridge, Consolacion	1561574	140209198	3	
Fernandezgarcia, Akashveer	1442006	137576914	3	
	Silverthorne St	rongStart Ctr Total	50	
	Report Total			





Staff > Attendance > Input > Reports > **StrongStart Attendance Summary**

This report provides a summary count of *POS* and *Absent* entries for each student in the course section, and a Class Total Summary at the end of the report. This report may display different data than the summary reports if attendance is entered in staff view or class roster after the section has been posted.

In the parameter form:

- Start and End Date: Enter the date range for the summary count
- Format: Select the format of the report from the dropdown list

Bulkley Valley	#1444 OF UNIVERSITY FOR STATE		TO CHAIR ON CHOICE	UPS (0-25-0)	Silverthorne StrongStart Ctr
Page 1	StrongStart Attendance Summary				September 14, 2017
	Schedule: 1 Teacher: E	ATEL-01 ASSIGI (1) manuels, Eniko 1/01/2017 - 29/06/		EL	
	Student		Present	Absent	1
	Advent, Tesfai		0	70	
	Akhunova, Eylin		22	49]
	Algera, Philhelmir	na	1	70	
	Alinan, Felyx		7	64	1





12.0 Ministry Extract

12.1.1 SOP Strong Start Extract

The Strong-Start Early-Learning Extract (Ministry) process is a regularly-scheduled business event, which happens once in a school year. The data extracted in this process reports positive attendance entered for StrongStart centres in BC for the date range and the content for the control file.

BC Strongstart extract includes the withdrawn student's positive attendance records.





13.0 Appendix A - School Start-up Checklist

StrongStart schools have a unique setup and method of taking attendance. It is important for users to understand the specific StrongStart settings and attendance functionality prior to using this checklist.

<u>IMPORTANT NOTE</u>: The school settings and entering Attendance must be done according to the instructions within this guide for the Ministry export to run successfully.

Task	Path	Description	Relevant Sections for Detail	
Review school details	School > School > Preferences leaf > Category = General, Daily Attendance, Class Attendance	Ensure settings match those in the School Details, Daily Attendance and Class Attendance sub sections	School Setup	
School Schedule	School > School > Schedules	Confirm start/end dates or set active schedule as needed	School Schedule	
Confirm/Add Students and Staff	School > Staff/Student	Add Staff as needed, Enroll Students	Student Details/Staff	
Create a Schedule Structure	School > Schedule > Structure > Terms/Days/Periods	Set up Schedule Term/Days/Periods	Schedule Structure	
School Calendar	School > School > Calendars	Assign a Day number to in session dates	School Calendar Setup	
Review or add a Course and Section(s)	School > Schedule > Courses	Confirm/Create a Course and Section	Course Setup	
Add Students to a Section	School > Student > Schedule > Workspace / School >Schedule > Master	Add Students individually or by group to a Section	Scheduling Students into a Course Section	





14.0 Appendix B - Attendance Process Graphic

