Is a Student Absent or Present?

You would think it's easy to tell if a student is absent or present on any given school day, but unfortunately, it's not that simple. That's because some Student Information Systems (SIS) can make it a bit complicated.

Popular SIS programs approach attendance like this: **students are considered present in the school unless a teacher or administrator marks them absent.** The rationale for this approach is simple: individually marking students as present can be time consuming and tedious. But while it may be more efficient, it comes with trade-offs in data integrity.

Imagine the difficulty when the police called a school district in North Carolina to ask if a senior had been in school on a particular day: the answer was yes, he was there. In fact, he was off campus, breaking into a car, and there was video to prove it.

Or, suppose a school district in Ohio over-reported their attendance and received a level of state funding that, under audit, turned out wasn't quite right. That was a mark against the responsible administrators.

But with automation, you can **simultaneously improve data integrity and reduce the amount of time it takes to collect attendance data.**

This is ScholarChip's approach: no student is ever marked present until they tap their secure smart ID card at the entrance of the bus, their school building, or in their classroom.

Our automated system shows instantly when and where students are present, which makes accessing and reporting real-time attendance data extremely efficient. With smooth PowerSchool® and other popular SIS program integration, ScholarChip changes the status of absent-or-present students so that the reporting process is faster and more accurate, too.

With tap-in attendance, teachers gain more instruction time, students gain more seat time, and school districts gain precise, up-to-the-minute data that can be shared with state or local authorities, every day, quickly and easily.

Contact ScholarChip today to learn how to update your attendance reporting with smart ID card automation.