

2015 At-Risk Youth National FORUM
February 15-18, 2015
Strands

Juvenile Justice and Law Enforcement

This strand will focus on strategies and programs that have proven effective in reaching or affecting youth who are currently or potentially involved with the juvenile justice system. Presentations in this strand can include preventive and restorative programs affecting this key population.

Student, Family, and Community Engagement

This strand will focus on strategies and methods that encourage engagement and relationships with at-risk youth, family members, and business and community members. These strategies may include specific programs that may be transferable to other contexts, relationship building and interpersonal communication strategies, and strategies to build or engage community members or organizations as partners.

Interacting With Specific Populations

Our country is becoming more and more diverse and this diversity is reflected in the populations we are educating. Students with disabilities; incarcerated youth; English language learners; new immigrants; student living in poverty; the homeless; students from urban, suburban, and rural areas; different religions; and sexual orientation are but some examples of groups whose learning needs must be successfully addressed in order to foster conditions to prevent dropping out of school. This strand is geared to present ideas and practices that address the teaching and learning needs of specific populations comprising this diversity.

Leadership and Policy

This strand's focus is on delivering quality leadership and policy discussion. Sessions are designed to provide education leaders and policymakers with strategies and skills for developing and sustaining effective schools. In addition, the strand is designed to discuss strategies for addressing and implementing established policy.

Literacy for Life Success

Research shows that a strong foundation in literacy is foundational to academic and life success. This strand includes presentations that address reading and writing teaching strategies as well as remedial and recovery strategies. Many states are recognizing the importance of an early, strong foundation in this area and this strand provides insight into effective strategies and practices in literacy efforts.

Behavioral Support

Youth practitioners, educators, and administrators find themselves facing increasing situations that require a behavioral change on the part of a young person, parent, or even staff member. This strand seeks to introduce strategies that can be used to address behavioral and/or attitudinal episodes.

Digital and New Ways of Learning

Technology has changed the way we live our lives and get our information. Today, our skills, knowledge, and attitudes are shaped by channels, media, and opportunities that did not exist even a decade ago. This strand includes presentations that discuss the learning styles and effective information delivery methods of the 21st century. Presentations may address social media, blended learning, tricks of technology, or use of other media or innovations.

Career and Transitional Preparation

With the strong attention to “after graduation results” in the educational world today, educators need to focus on the skills needed for students to transition to the next phase of their lives. Sessions in this strand should address skills that will help young people succeed in the workplace, in an academic setting, or in a service arena. The strand addresses transitions that occur between grade levels and immediately after graduation.