Community-Based Education: Innovation Beyond the Classroom

Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of Clemson University’s College of Health, Education, and Human Development

Graduation Rates (1990-2010)

Effective Education Involves Coordinated Effort
“Decades of social science research have demonstrated that differences in quality of schools can explain about one-third of the variation in student achievement. But the other two-thirds is attributable to non-school factors.”

— Richard Rothstein, 2010, How to Fix our Schools
Coordinated Community-Based Efforts: Eight Strategic Efforts

1. Comprehensive and integrated early childhood development effort: 0-5

2. Strong parent support system
Coordinated Community-Based Efforts: Eight Strategic Efforts

3. Ensure that all students are reading at grade level, especially by grade three

4. Address chronic absenteeism

5. Build adult and peer support systems
Coordinated Community-Based Efforts: Eight Strategic Efforts

6. Develop integrated after-school, and summer enrichment and remediation programs

7. Develop a seamless system of health care services and other public services on the school campus. Build adult and peer support systems

8. Develop an effective alternative school model for at-risk students
“Efforts to improve educational outcomes in these schools, attempting to drive change through test-based accountability, are thus unlikely to succeed unless accompanied by policies to address the out of school factors that negatively affect large numbers of our nation’s students.”

—Berliner, 2009, Poverty and Potential: Out of School Factors and School Success

Thank You!

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