Dropout Prevention Update
August 1, 2005- Volume 5- Number 2
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Top Stories

Graduation Counts is a report from the National Governors Association Task Force on State High School Graduation Data. http://www.nga.org/portal/site/nga/menuitem.6c9a8a9ebc6ae07eee28aca9501010a0/?vgnextoid=f599184d94525010VgnVCM1000001a0101aRCRD&vgnextchannel=6d4c8aaa2ebbff00VgnVCM1000001a0101aRCRD


Funding Sources

The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy funds programs that include reading instruction for parents or primary caregivers; literacy or preliteracy instruction for children; and intergenerational activities. Deadline: September 9, 2005. http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com


Policy Updates

Milwaukee has an increasing number of "teacher-led" schools that operate without administrators. http://www.jsonline.com/news/metro/jul05/341727.asp

International Notes
How do schools handle ethnic tensions when a bomber was a learning mentor? http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/4687417.stm


Students With Disabilities

This is the fifteenth anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Assistive technologies are enabling disabled students to be full and active participants in school life. http://www.edutopia.org/php/article.php?id=Art_1241
**Effective Strategies**  
**Educational Technology**

Video-game camps target at-risk youth.  

MediaKid outlines a set of mediated learning tools that under-resourced parents can provide to their children in order to better prepare them for school.  
[http://www.digitaldivide.net/community/MediaKid](http://www.digitaldivide.net/community/MediaKid)

A low-cost strategy intended to beat the predictable obsolescence that often afflicts classroom technology.  

Compared to four years ago, teens’ use of the Internet has intensified and broadened as they log on more often and do more things when they are online.  

**Professional Development**

A special report on professional development that looks at effective staff training, classroom visits, literacy coaches, and the rise in online teacher training.  

AERA’s *Research Points* summarizes studies of learning opportunities for teachers that are explicitly aimed at increasing student achievement.  
[http://snipurl.com/AERApd](http://snipurl.com/AERApd)

**Systemic Renewal**


A special issue of *Principal Leadership* magazine profiles successful high-poverty, high-minority schools that have earned the label "Breakthrough High School."  

The summer edition of *Rethinking Schools* explores the hottest trend in school reform: small schools.  
[http://www.rethinkingschools.org/archive/curriss.shtml](http://www.rethinkingschools.org/archive/curriss.shtml)

**Resources & Tools**

MENTOR has a comprehensive tool kit that offers step-by-step instructions to implement an effective mentoring program.  

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's annual *Kids Count Databook* dropout chart.  

*The Forum Guide to Education Indicators* provides encyclopedia-type entries for 44 commonly used education indicators.  

[http://childstats.gov/americaschildren](http://childstats.gov/americaschildren)

The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and Reading Rockets are helping educators meet the growing challenges of teaching Latino English language learners.  
[http://www.colorincolorado.org/about/release0705.php](http://www.colorincolorado.org/about/release0705.php)

We appreciate comments from our readers. Please contact us at ndpc@clemson.edu Sources: Education News, Commentaries, & Reports, Edutopia, ENC, eSn, NASSP Bulletin, NCES, PEN Weekly, rtcUpdates, TLN Resources