

Dropout Prevention Update
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National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Registration is open for the [Seventeenth Annual National Dropout Prevention Network Conference in Santa Clara, CA](#)

Top Stories

Supporters say that incentive plans for students make sense and mirror those many companies use to motivate their employees. <http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0729/p01s03-ussc.html?s=hns>

A Brooklyn teacher watched his dust-filled, drably colored classroom get transformed into an educational paradise. <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/story/335691p-286756c.html>

The Center on Education Policy's *Do You Know the Latest Good News About American Education?*, looks at positive trends and outlines 24 indicators of success in five main categories. <http://www.cep-dc.org/pubs/LatestGoodNews/LatestGoodNewsAug05.pdf>

Funding Sources

Striving Readers funds programs to improve the literacy skills of teenage students who read below grade level. Deadline: September 15, 2005. <http://www.ed.gov/programs/strivingreaders/applicant.html>

Best Buy School Technology Program has three levels of awards from \$2,500 to \$250,000. You must be located within 50 miles of a Best Buy store. Deadline: September 30, 2005. <http://fconline.fdncenter.org/pnd/3300/bestbuy>

SchoolSpan's second annual Web Empowerment Grants will provide funding for technology applications for school district web sites. Deadline: September 30, 2005. Second Deadline: November 30, 2005. <http://www.schoolspan.com>

Policy Updates

Connecticut is the first state to file suit against NCLB. <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryts.cfm?ArticleID=5832>

U.S. Secretary of Education Spellings calls NCLB "Good policy and good politics." <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2005/08/08042005.html>

International Notes

What makes boys choose bricklaying and girls childcare? Is there a gender divide in apprenticeships? <http://education.guardian.co.uk/egweekly/story/0,5500,1540360,00.html>

Bullying has taken on epidemic proportions in public schools across Germany, according to an alarming new survey that is backed up with first-hand accounts. http://news.monstersandcritics.com/education/article_1031609.php/%20Bullying_takes_on_epidemic_proportions_in_German_schools

Students With Disabilities

After High School: A First Look at the Postschool Experiences of Youth with Disabilities, finds that disabled students over all are less than half as likely as their peers to have attended college in the two years after high school, but the college-going rate varies greatly by type of disability. http://www.nlts2.org/pdfs/afterhighschool_report.pdf

A new report finds that more youths with disabilities are successfully making the transition from school to higher education, jobs, and adult responsibilities than they did in the late 1980s.
<http://www.nlts2.org/gindex.html>

Effective Strategies

Alternative Schooling

AGUILA is a college-prep program in Arizona targeting high-achieving Latino students interested in attending college. <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0815phxyouth.html#>

Low-income students can attend private schools by working for corporate America once a week. But will they stay in school? <http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0825/p14s02-legn.html?s=hns>

Education Policy Institute analyzed school-level Stanford Achievement Test scores for 27 fifth-grade cohorts at 24 KIPP schools and found substantially greater academic gains than what is normally expected. <http://www.educationalpolicy.org/>

Educational Technology

The number of incoming college freshmen who chose computer science as a major fell more than 60% between 2000 and 2004, says a report from the Higher Education Research Institute.
<http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0815/p08s01-comv.html?s=hns>

“Kutztown 13” are charged with felonies for computer abuse.
<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryts.cfm?ArticleID=5820>

How does blogging transform the education landscape?
<http://www.asbj.com/2005/07/0705coverstory2.html>

Family Engagement

The National Parent Teacher Association in collaboration with the National Education Association has developed how-to guides for parents on ways to help their children succeed in school.
<http://www.nea.org/parents/nearesources-parents.html>

The National Network of Partnership Schools offers school-family communication suggestions and success stories. <http://www.csos.jhu.edu/p2000/FAQ/faqtype2.htm>

The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement offers research-based advice and resources designed to help schools and districts foster successful parent involvement.
http://www.centerforcsri.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=130&Itemid=5

Resources & Tools

The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study Through Age 40.
<http://www.highscope.org/Research/PerryProject/perrymain.htm>

Youth Indicators, 2005: Trends in the Well-Being of American Youth.
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2005050>

A new online teacher toolkit with 21st century technology and up-to-date tools.
<https://www.neateachertoolkit.com/TTK/Default.aspx?id=911>

High School Survey of Student Engagement <http://www.indiana.edu/~nsse/hssse/>

We appreciate comments from our readers. Please contact us at ndpc@clemsun.edu Sources: Alliance for Excellent Education, EducationNews.org, ECS, ENC, eSn, PEN Weekly, Technology Leadership News